

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

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BIRTHS.

On July 1st, at Newchwang, the wife of R. Y. ANDERSON, of a son.

On July 4th, at Kuling, the wife of LESLIE J. CURRIE, of Shanghai, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On July 2nd, at Shanghai, GABRIEL W. CLARK, Locomotive Foreman, Imperial Chinese Railways, Taokow-Chinghua Line, Honan, to ISABELLA G. KIRK, of Belfast, Ireland.

DEATHS.

On July 1st, at Shanghai, GEORGE ALFRED VICTOR DICK, of the Great Northern Telegraph Co., aged 33 years.

On July 10th, at Hongkong, ROBERT DUNCAN. Funeral will pass the Monument this (Thursday) evening at 6 p.m.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.

LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The English Mail of 15th June arrived, per the s.s. *Delhi*, on Thursday, the 11th instant.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

Extraordinary heat has been experienced at Hongkong during the last week.

The only social events considered possible have been bathing parties and picnics.

Water polo is now the sport most in favour with the athletes of the Colony, and many teams are practising to compete. The Corinthian Yacht Club is a new entrant for these honours, and has begun well.

The extract of meteorological observations made at the Hongkong Observatory during the month of June shows the average maximum temperature for that month to have been 84.3 deg.; the average minimum temperature 76.4 deg.; and the rainfall, 13.170 inches.

L'Echo de Chine states that placards in imitation of official proclamations were posted in various parts of the native city at Shanghai bearing the following announcement:—"The opium dens which were closed by mistake on June 22 may be re-opened on July 4."

The possibility of the re-purchase of Weihaiwei by China is again the subject of lively discussion amongst high Chinese officials. Prince Ching is said to be the principal promoter of this affair, as he regard Weihaiwei as the very best naval harbour for the Chinese fleet.

Viceroy Shum still hangs on at the Bureau of Foreign Affairs, Shanghai, although his ten days' grace long ago expired. In addition to many anxiously curious enquiries from Canton, he has received from the authorities at Peking another despatch "hastening his departure."

L'Echo de Chine mentions that when certain European residents of Shanghai went out shooting recently near the village of Fa-hao they were attacked by village dogs. The natives did not attempt to interfere, and the Europeans had to wound several of the animals before they were freed from their unwelcome attentions. The tao tai of Shanghai has written to the doyen of the consular corps on the subject and asked that certain recommendations be imposed upon European sportsmen so as to avoid a repetition of this occurrence in the future.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that Memorials of Re-entry by the Government of Lantau Island: Demarcation District 312: Lots Nos. 794; 812 and 1,229; Demarcation District 313: Lot No. 12; Demarcation District 316: Lot No. 1,283; Demarcation District 318: Lot Nos. 2,119; 2,184 and 2,189; Demarcation District 333: Lot Nos. 85; 86; 266; 285; 438 and 501; Mui Wo: Demarcation District 1: Lot No. 821; Demarcation District 2: Lot No. 3; Tung Chung: Demarcation District 3: Lot No. 2,232, and Demarcation District 5: Lot No. 347, have been registered according to law.

A Boiler and Engine Insurance Company is about to be established in Japan, funded by Mr. Thos. Kershaw, M. I. Mech. E., of Kobe, together with a number of influential gentlemen connected with cotton, &c., spinning mills throughout the country. Application for the necessary charter is now before the Government authorities. The object of the proposed company is to periodically inspect and insure all kinds of steam boilers, engines, and other land power plant and to carry on such business on similar lines to that carried on by similar British and Continental companies. At the present time steam boilers are periodically inspected by inspectors appointed by the municipal or police authorities, and much inconvenience is caused to steam users owing to their being compelled to shut down their boilers at short notice consequent upon the number of inspectors being very limited. New boilers are being continually imported to Japan and their inspection entails great expense (with no return) on the Government authorities, who are said to fully recognise the importance of this business being undertaken by a public concern.

The Philharmonic Society members are already making preparations for another season. Their annual meeting is reported on page 22. A two-night visit of Bandmann's Opera Company was an event of the week.

Returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong during the month ended 3rd June, 1907, as certified by the managers of the respective banks, are as under:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India		
Australia and China,	3,197,611	2,300,000
Hongkong and Shanghai		
Banking Corporation,	16,338,873	11,000,000
National Bank of China,		
Limited.	215,799	100,000
Total,	\$ 19,752,283	13,400,000

INTERESTING CHINESE TRIAL OF KRUPP GUNS.

Another interesting trial took place at Tientsin on June 2nd with a 7.5 c.m. field gun and a 10.5 c.m. light field Howitzer of the latest Krupp pattern before a commission of Chinese artillery experts from the Ministry of War and from the local military head office.

The guns are specially adapted to Chinese roads, and the trial was a big success. They remained absolutely rigid during the shooting. In order to test them an empty shell was placed on them but it remained unmoved by the discharge.

The Howitzer was fired from behind a small hill so that the gunners could not see the target and had to be directed from a distant observation place. The powerful shell could be followed from the foot of the hill to a considerable height. An enormous cloud of earth was thrown up high into the air when the large quantity of the explosive contained in the shells took effect.

With the field gun a three millimeter plate of the finest Krupp nickel-steel was perforated as if it were paper; while it was shown that the shrapnel bullets fired at a plate of about the thickness of a gun's protecting armour did not penetrate, thus proving that the men serving the guns were safe from shrapnel fire. A brick wall about two feet thick was also smashed by explosive shells. The Chinese experts took the utmost interest in the proceedings, and asked questions which showed their knowledge of modern gunnery.

After each series of shots the experts rode to the targets and inspected them.

The very successful trials were managed by Hauptmann Ahlers of the Krupp factory and by Mr. Bolte of Messrs. Mandi and Company, the local agents for Krupps.

The shooting was seriously handicapped by a mirage of unusual strength, which made it difficult to judge the distance and the effect of the shots.

The mirage had the effect of making the target appear to hang suspended above a sea.

The German Consul, Herr Knipping, Count Rex, the nephew of the Minister, Major von Barfus, Captain Kuhlo, A.D.C., and several German officers were present at the trials.

RIVER PORTS.

(Daily Press, 8th July.)

The latest fascicle of the I. M. C. trade returns, dealing with the Central Ports, Shanghai, Soochow, Hangchow, Ningpo, and Wenchow, is mainly a Shanghai number, as might be expected. In addition to the usual report and statistics for each port, it gives a lot of information about the river itself, its recent condition, and about the work being done to improve its navigability. Those interested in these matters should apply for copies, as there are charts and plans whose lucid details cannot well be dealt with in ordinary type. The price is two dollars.

The trade report for Shanghai says that during 1906 the most interesting characteristic of the condition of the port generally was the ever-increasing expansion of the town in every direction. Building and rebuilding operations everywhere indicated the faith in the future of the settlements. The inauguration of an electric tram system prompts the following reference:

"One of the alternative schemes to the tramway, and one which was strongly advocated, was to have no tramway at all, but lines of motor vehicles. This scheme was negatively, mainly, upon the hypothesis that the native could not be trusted to become a reliable chauffeur. Curiously enough, the reverse has proved to be the fact, and no modern invention has developed more rapidly in Shanghai, or contributed more to the expansion of the town, than the motor industry. Garages and repair shops are springing up in all quarters, and the large number of valuable motor-cars and motor boats, all of which are most of the time solely in charge of the native chauffeur, would strike any newly arrived Occidental as exceptional anywhere."

References in the Shanghai papers have prepared us to believe that more than newly arrived Occidentals have been struck by them, and we would fain be thankful that Hongkong, not possessing Shanghai's levels, is unlikely to betray the same striking progress. As it is, however, we have one or two stray specimens, which have yet to learn that there is a legal limit to speed in city streets. It is almost a certainty, judging by further observations on the subject, that Mr. Commissioner Hobson, the writer of the report, is himself an enthusiastic motorist. With an eye to cheaper tyres, he even suggests that the poppy fields, left fallow, owing to the anti-opium edicts, should be used for the cultivation of the "equally remunerative india-rubber trees". Dealing with other signs of progress, he remarks that it is becoming increasingly recognised that Shanghai is to be the permanent home for most of its foreign residents.

Coming to trade figures, we find that no less than 965,000 applications were passed in the Custom House, as compared with 843,000 in 1905, then the highest recorded. The total collection was over 12½ million taels, showing an increase of about three quarters of a million taels on the 1905 record. Part of the increase was in tonnage dues, in which connection it is pointed out that British shipping contributed over half a million taels less than in the previous year, while Japanese tonnage was augmented 700 per cent., and paid over a million more in dues. The German flag held its own with a slight increase, while the French made a decided advance. Figures of imports do not afford evidence of the actual state of trade, as many importers overstocked in consequence of too sanguine estimates of the demand to follow the declaration of peace. The chief increase in the revenue, however, was attributable to exports and re-exports—mainly tea and silk.

Soochow also reported bigger takings, mainly due to increased shipments of green tea, but Hangchow had a different tale to tell, of bad crops and the lowest revenue for five years. Imports had increased, but exports fell very low. The result of the year's trading at Ningpo could only be described as "somewhat less satisfactory". All these places find their figures reduced by the diminution of the opium trade, but the Hangchow Commissioner foresees substitutes and smuggling. Wenchow shared in the disappointment over the Manchuria demand, and with failing local crops, might have been expected to show worse returns. As it was, however, the net value of trade was a little better than in either of the two previous years. This was due to the steady development of the export trade, especially in tea, followed closely by tobacco.

A REHEARING.

(Daily Press, July 9th.)

The general consensus of opinion doubtless is that the Burning of the Books in B. C. 213 was an unmitigated atrocity, an act worthy of the worst of Philistines, of Vandals. The extent of the holocaust, Dr. LEGGE has suggested, may have been exaggerated, and we have no doubt whatever that it was. Exaggeration has come to be regarded as a proverbial and almost pardonable weakness of writers, and it is natural to suppose that under such apparently wanton provocation, the Chinese literati of subsequent periods would let themselves go when referring to this famous, or infamous, attempt to destroy the literary records of the Middle Kingdom. Whether the burning of the books was on a wholesale scale, or only a half-done job, we cannot expect for one moment to enlist the sympathy of any lovers of literature by a belated attempt to redeem the memory of Li Ssu (the Minister at whose instigation the First Emperor commanded the destruction of the then-existing aggregation of sapience) from the obloquy and execration it has had to suffer for so many years. A MACHIAVEL might say the attempt deserves blame because it did not succeed: the literati will say it deserved censure from the moment it was allowed to dwell in the mind of its originator. So much depends on the personal equation, on the point of view. In these days, when the saying that of the making of books there is no end is true beyond the wildest dreams of its author, it should not be impossible to summon up sufficient tolerance to make some allowance for the late Li Ssu. The literati of all nations may be challenged, as likely to form a biased jury, although even amongst them, given a little calm reflection, there should be some able to recognise the idea that a repetition of the incident, especially if not bungled as that was, might be "good for trade." The modern scribblers might pretend to be shocked, but what a chance for them if the classics could be wiped out once for all. Everything would be original; there would be no more platitudes for quite a while; and the awkward copyright in ideas, by which SHAKESPEARE, and PLATO, and other gentlemen are permitted to retain credit that is of no use to them, would no longer be a stumbling block in the way of philosophers who are afraid of being told that "that was said before." Probably all of SOLOMON's wise sayings were platitudes when he published them, and it is certainly unfair that every modern Solomon who thinks one of them for himself should have to say them in quotation marks. The picture of a world without any literature at all is,

however, too fascinating; it is Utopian, and we had better abandon it, with a sigh for the literary reputation that could therein be so easily earned, for, as every literary person knows, the chief merit of SHAKESPEARE et hoc genus omnes is that they had the first chance to tell the good stories, before competition became so keen. It may safely be urged, on behalf of Li Ssu deceased, that his advice to the Emperor was not prompted by any such personal aims. It was not a private literary ambition that led to the Burning of the Books. It is not suggested in any of the records that he was afflicted with the cacoethes scribendi, and wanted an open field for his own efforts. It is permissible to assume, from what is known of his life, character, and career, that he was a well-meaning person, a politician who wanted to do the best he could for his country and people. He was, moreover, and this is too obvious to need elaborate demonstration, a man of ideas. He found, as other men of ideas constantly find, that other men had had ideas before him. He found himself and his political schemes hampered and embarrassed by the existence of these other ideas, for which many of his compatriots, obliged, like so many citizens of all countries, to acquire their ideas second-hand, showed a foolish respect. Li Ssu must have been a sort of Chinese JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, in fact. He had ideas, and being human, had the ordinary human cocksureness in their infallibility. His ideas were the best, he knew, if they could only have a fair chance. He was an advocate, so to speak, of "Preference"—of preference for his own ideas of government and administration, and the ideas of the Chinese COBDENS who had preceded him were very much in the way of progress. They were a clog. What could more naturally have occurred to him than the idea of getting rid of these clogs at one fell swoop? A child would have thought of it. It was, however, an undertaking too big for him. From the first he was weak. He permitted himself to make some exceptions, and that was fatal. If not one exemption, why not others? Other people had their literary fancies, and so it came about that many books were surreptitiously saved from the flames. But for that weakness, China might now have been governed on more modern lines, on a system evolved within the last two thousand years at most, and so not quite so rusty; and we should certainly have been spared a good many of the acrimonious arguments of the sinologues. The lesson that all rulers and governors and ministers may learn from this regrettable incident in the career of Li Ssu is to be thorough. But for his policy of half measures, that mandarin du temps jadis might have been held now in more respectful memory.

HONGKONG SUBSIDIARY.
COINAGE.

(Daily Press, 10th July.)

Our correspondent yesterday, who signed his letter "Chopped Dollar," is an example of a voice crying in a wilderness, a wilderness of opinion. To a person earnestly endeavouring to form an opinion out of the collective opinions of his fellow residents in this Colony, there comes inevitable bewilderment. Never was such mental chaos betrayed on any local subject; never more diverse ideas more dogmatically expressed; and perhaps never such a unanimous clinging to indefiniteness when the enquirer pushes home questions. It appears there is so little solid data to go upon, so few premises of

general acceptance, that the man in the street is only too willing to "save face" by the *regressus ad infinitum*, or the equally unworthy subterfuge of dismissing the subject with a frivolous verdict supposed to be after the manner of "Mr. Dooley." Our correspondent, to whom we are obliged for calling public attention to what we regard as an inadequate Government movement, is chiefly concerned with the long time it will take to have any useful effect. That is a good point, for the disease is now in crisis, and the remedy, if any be possible, cannot be waited for. There have been suggestions, proposals, and speeches made, by practical business men, and we are quite sure that those men will not regard the latest official announcement as in any sense a solution of the difficulty. And until they are agreed among themselves with regard to fundamentals, we fear there will not be that clarity which tends to solution. What seems desirable as a first step in the discussion is a stock of axioms, or at least postulates,—the theories may follow later. Lawyer fashion, the ground needs to be cleared with as many admissions as are possible. Here comes the difficulty of this amazing question, on which "not even the youngest of us" can pose as an infallible authority.

First of all then, comes the official theory, enunciated in the recent notice, that the stock of Hongkong subsidiary coins is in excess of requirements—the available stock, that is—and that the Government proposes gradually to withdraw from circulation. That the supply of Hongkong subsidiary coins is more than "required by the necessities of business in the Colony"—is that an axiom, the truth of which is so apparent as to be instantly admitted, or is it only an assumption? It is not capable of axiomatic statement, perhaps, but its untruth seems almost self-evident to those whose business touches the lesser values in our local currency. When a large heap of subsidiary coins is taken at random and sorted, in one place of business, and the proportion of British coins in the heap found to be not more than two per cent of the whole, that is evidence toward the contrary statement that there is not enough in circulation, in the Colony, for the ordinary requirements of business. When the experiment is repeated at several other establishments, with very similar results, we do not need the generally confirmatory impression of the man in the street to warrant us in demanding that it be postulated that the stock available is not sufficient. That brings us to the point that if we are all to boycott the Chinese subsidiary coins, as we would like to do, we should find our business hampered unless the Government at once issued a great deal more, instead of withdrawing from the present supply, or unless it were augmented in some other way. Our correspondent has asserted that such boycott would bring Hongkong subsidiary coins back from Kwangtung in shiploads. Is that a postulate upon which we are all agreed, or a mere assertion? It is self-evident that if those shiploads of Hongkong coins do not exist, if they are no longer in circulation in China, they cannot come back. Then we must see if they do exist. Many well-informed and understanding people believe that the bulk of them were long ago melted down. Being of better metal than the Chinese coins, it is said the Chinese frequently found them worth more as bullion. Perhaps those of our readers and correspondents who travel much in Kwangtung will keep their eyes open, and by experiments such as those mentioned above, ascertain approximately the percentage of

Hongkong coins visible in circulation in that province. Meanwhile, we have to admit that a proposition is possible both ways—they might flow back, and they might not. If they did, it is yet to be proved that they would return in sufficient numbers to be in excess of the ordinary requirements of the Colony, and if they did so return, the Government could still adopt the tactics it proposes now. Another point is that the Government is afraid they may come back; "Chopped Dollar" points out that it would be in the nature of an "heroic measure" for the Government to redeem any large proportion of the forty million dollars' worth it has issued. Doubtless, owing to the shortsightedness which undertook to stock the Chinese empire with subsidiary coinage, and omitted to provide any sinking fund for eventualities, some heroism would be necessary. In this case, however, we suggest that heroism also spells honesty. In issuing those coins the Government made a profit and incurred a debt, an obligation, and it does not seem right that it should repudiate its responsibility by copying the Chinese disrespect for the dies and stamps of the mint. The Chinaman has never learned to trust to the government seal or the Emperor's head, but we have. He estimates the intrinsic value of a coin, and relies on his own estimate. We see the monarch's effigy, and take the word of the government that the coin is worth what it says it is. The present discount on Hongkong coins—and here we are too impatient to weigh axioms and postulates—the present discount on Hongkong subsidiary coins, we assume and assert, has really nothing to do with supply and demand, but is the result of a dishonest copying of the Chinese pernicious method. The banks at Home levy no such tax on business takings. To the man in the street at any rate, it seems a quite illegitimate and incredibly stupid arrangement that when the Post Office, a Government department, sends a lot of Government money to the Bank, the Government's financial organ, that Bank should be permitted to levy discount, to tell the Government that its own money is so much metal, its own promise to pay worthless. Until the Government faces the consequences of its own past, and determines to do honestly in the present, by admitting that a King's ten-cent piece is worth one-tenth of a King's dollar, and authorizing or ordering the Bank to act accordingly, we do not see that any end to our present commercial worries is in sight. But let the legislators and others interested in the question first gather together all the possible postulates, and afterwards it will seem less heroic to be honest. If a loan be necessary, let there be a loan; the essential thing is to make the King's money honest money, and not, as it is now, a mass of metal whose real value is determined by the operators on the market.

ETHNOLOGICAL.

(Daily Press, 11th July).

Writing last month of the ancestry of the Mongolian horse, we remarked that we might learn from the distribution of the Horse, past and present, something which would prove useful in the ethnography of the ancient peoples. It is occasionally useful as well as interesting to reperuse the ethnological efforts of a past generation, in the light of future accessions to our knowledge. Amongst the books on the ethnography of an ancient people few attracted more attention than the late Canon Isaac TAYLOR's *Etruscan Researches*.

Few scholars of the day were more competent to express an opinion on the subject, as few were more deeply versed in the beginnings of civilisation, and the early struggles of mankind to reduce his speech to the more permanent form of writing.

In many respects the ethnology of the Tuscan race is of particular interest, as through its descendant, Ancient Rome, its influence still survives, and has had an important role to play in the development of our modern civilisation. To the interest resulting from this connection with ourselves has to be added that resulting from the fact of the peculiar isolation of Etruscan culture, and the failure of all efforts to trace its connection with any of the other ancient developments of high civilisation. Etruscan art, it is allowed on all sides, owes largely its inspiration to Greece, and much of its mythology and motive is directly copied from Greek originals. So far its remains abundantly prove, nor is there any effort made by the artists to conceal the fact. Still, with all its acknowledged indebtedness to Greek inspiration, there is something so manifestly *sui generis* in Etruscan art, that in all ages its critics have had to acknowledge that, deep below the surface, and in spite of all its devotion to precedent, there is something innate in the style and character of the art and the inscriptions, which resolutely refuses to be referred to any known origin amongst the great nations of antiquity.

Canon TAYLOR was amongst those who claimed what in those days was called a Turanian origin for the Etruscans; and was one of the first to support his claim with philological arguments worthy of notice. His work was published in 1874, and, considering how limited at the time was our knowledge of the ancient races of the world, displayed a wonderful amount of learning and sound judgment. He was largely swayed in his opinions by the German school of ethnologists, and partly from this reason, and partly from the difficulties inherent in the task, his essay has never been accepted as anything more than an ingenious guess. The fact of the matter is, of course, that none of his authorities are above suspicion, so that the very foundation of the edifice is unsound. Chinese, for instance, is classed as a Turanian or Ugric speech; and no knowledge is displayed of the necessary modifications undergone by a language, especially an unwritten one, in the course of centuries and milleniums, so that it is idle to look for analogies unless the languages to be compared be in the same stage. Still, although we should not be justified in accepting the CANON's argument in full, or even to any particular extent, he is usually credited with having made out a fair case for the general relationship of the people and language, and their affinities are by most modern ethnographers assumed to be Turanian in the sense in which that word was used in the last century—that is cognate with those more northern peoples of Asia, who have been called variously Ugro-Altaic, Ugric, Mongolian, or Turkic. To all or any of these names there are serious objections; and even to the term Ugric which Canon TAYLOR more especially affects, and which is perhaps the least objectionable of the lot.

And this naturally brings us to the consideration in what way any or all are concerned with the Mongol pony.

In our previous article we spoke of the original home of the Mongolian horse as having been prior to the European Ice Age and the emergence of Central Asia, in the great plain of Central Europe. From that, owing to the general elevation of the

temperature having brought on an invasion of these plains by the more southern Mediterranean fauna, the Mongol pony and his associates of the old northern fauna had to retreat; and their line of retreat was across the plains of northern Siberia, the climate of which, opposite to that of Europe,—was then milder than now. But the animals did not undertake the journey alone; for the ancient human dwellers in central and western Europe found themselves compelled, under similar pressure from the more advanced Mediterranean peoples, to move with the animals to which they were accustomed. Such was the position of these peoples at the first dawn of history, as we learn from HERODOTUS. His authority is claimed to have been an ancient Greek poet whom he calls ARISTEAS, son of KAYISTROBIS, who, inspired by Apollo, is said to have wandered into the regions of the Issedones. The real authority is the old tradition of the Zoroastrians to be found in the Avesta. Beyond the Issedones, said the poet, dwelt the Arimaspians, and these continually encroaching on their neighbours, forced them southwards in to the great plains of the Sogdian Mesopotamia, and eventually into India and China. The Greek poet does not give a clue to the true cause of the movement, which is, however, supplied by the Zoroastrian scriptures. The first of lands created by Ahura Mazda was the old Aryano Vaejo, "by the Good River Daitya", at first a land of bliss till Angra Mainyu came and counter-created winter. "There are ten winter months there, two summer months." The fact was that as the northern land of Asia rose, it also became colder and less habitable, so that the irruption of the Arimaspians was by no means of their own seeking. It had the effect, as we learn from Zoroastrian, Indian, and Chinese legends, as well as from HERODOTUS, of bringing about the first historical human emigration, that of the Aryans and Iranians in the East.

Now Canon TAYLOR, while probably correct in connecting his Etruscans with these Arimaspians of northern Asia, has certainly no sufficient basis for his next conclusion—that of bringing his Etruscans from the flanks of the Altai or Urals. As we have seen, the migration of the animals eastward was not so complete but that some were left behind, even in the time of HERODOTUS, when the Mongolian pony was still wild on the banks of the modern Dniester. Assuming that horse and man started from the same locality, as we are certainly justified in doing, we may trace both back to the level lands of south western France, and this we are the more justified in doing that, as Canon TAYLOR pointed out, there are other reasons to trace kinship between the old Etruscans and the original inhabitants of western Asia Minor.

But this establishes a further strange relationship. These cave-dwellers in southern France, notwithstanding their low civilisation, had already evolved considerable artistic power; and their rude drawings of the now extinct animals by which they were surrounded are remarkable for their truth and spirit. Amongst these drawings are their sketches of the Mongolian pony, which are so life-like in their draftmanship that the animal cannot be mistaken. The search into the origin of the Mongolian pony has led us to the still further discovery that to the rude arts of the Dordogne cave-dweller is really to be traced the art of the Etruscan predecessor of the Romans, in many aspects still unsurpassed. Like the Etruscan the Roman has also been classed as of no account in the artistic development

of the world, and it is only since yesterday we have been able to comprehend that while both Etruscan and Roman have been able largely to assimilate the arts of their neighbours, both have possessed at all times at bottom a genuine artistic instinct which has always prevented them from being mere copyists.

OVERTAXED MACAO.

(Daily Press, 12th July.)

What a contrast Macao presents to Hongkong in the matter of taxation! It is the proud boast of Hongkong that it has reached its pinnacle of greatness among the ports of the Far East by reason of the freedom of its trade from vexatious and injurious taxation. Fifty years ago Macao might have been regarded as one of the most important centres of foreign trade in the Far East. It is now little more than of historical interest as the first foreign Colony on the China coast. Its trade has almost entirely disappeared. The governing authorities have done nothing to encourage trade, but everything to strangle it. Lisbon has regarded Macao as a lemon to be squeezed; and to produce sufficient juice the Colony has had to be taxed to an extent which can only mean its ultimate extinction as a Portuguese Colony. The latest taxation law—it was adopted in 1887, but is only now put into force—seems to be the *coup de grace*, and it is not surprising that the most despondent view is taken of the future by residents in the Colony. The Chinese have entered a strong protest against it. During the plague scare thousands of Chinese left the Colony and the new taxation which was decreed last March, has had the effect, it is said, of keeping them away, perhaps never to return. The list of taxes embraces 201 businesses, and a few extracts from this list will not be without interest to those who have the good fortune to live where the tax-gatherer is not so prominent as he is at Macao. Every business is specialised. There are no fewer than nine kinds of carpenters, so that if a man who makes tea chests also makes furniture he has to pay additional taxation. Moreover every industry is divided into three classes. There are, for instance, first-class old clo' men, second class old clo' men and third-class old clo' men. Those in the first class pay a tax of \$3 a year, those in the second \$5.40, and those in the third \$7.80. The heaviest tax is on cement and brick factories, the tax ranging from \$100 to \$300 a year. Hotels, according to their class, pay \$25, \$30, and \$40, while on private boarding houses the tax ranges from \$4.80 to \$9. Apparently the Assessment Committee classifies the houses or industries as first, second, or third. A license has to be taken out within three days, and anybody who fails to comply with this requirement is liable to prosecution for defrauding the public revenue. The license has to be hung up in a prominent place at the entrance to the shop so that it can readily be seen. This is not obligatory on mercantile firms. In the event of failure to pay the tax quarterly in advance on the due date, the penalty for a first offence is payment of a full year's taxes in addition to the quarterly payment due, and double the cost of the stamp. In no case is the fine to exceed 20,000 reis. A repetition of the offence is met by a distress warrant.

Everybody is taxed; the dairy which supplies the baby's milk, the shop which supplies its clothes (whether new or second-hand), the shoemaker, grocer and the

baker, the fish dealer, the Chinese pen-maker (as well as the friend to Chinese illiterate humanity who writes letters at the street corner, and his near business relative the maker of Chinese "chops"), the manufacturer as well as the seller of joss-sticks, the vendor as well as the maker of candles, those who let out on hire bicycles, jinrickshas or carriages, those who build houses or decorate them or make any conceivable article wherewith to furnish them. The Chinese doctor is also taxed, so are the dispensaries, and we might appropriately close the list with the coffin makers. One may not even escape taxation by living idly in Macao, for there is a Police Tax which apparently is levied on every individual, the amount of the tax ranging from \$6.25 a month to 35 cents a month. For this purpose the community is graded into ten classes, a classification comprehensive enough to embrace everybody from a nobleman to a dustman or a beach-comber. Macao may still have its attractions for the visitor, but it has few left for residents.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on July 9th at the Board Room. The Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson (President) presided, and there were also present Hon. Mr. W. Chatham (Vice-President), Dr. F. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Dr. H. McFarlane (Assistant Medical Officer of Health), Mr. F. J. Bideley, (Captain Superintendent of Police), Major T. P. Jones, R.A.M.C., Hon. Mr. A. W. Brewin, (Registrar General), Mr. A. Shelton Hooper, Mr. Lau Chu-pak, and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (secretary).

CHINESE CEMETERY AT APLICHAN.

The report by the committee consisting of the Hon. Registrar-General and Messrs. Fang Wa Chun and Lau Chu-pak relative to a site on Aplichan being used as a public cemetery for tombs of a more permanent nature and larger than are allowed in the present Chinese cemeteries was read as under.

Of the two sites suggested Aplichan and Tsing Yi—the former is considered the better though it is difficult of access and rocky. It has not been found possible to make regulations for a public cemetery of the nature suggested, and it is recommended that this site or another should be leased by the Government as a cemetery to one or more private individuals who can satisfy the Registrar-General that they are acting on behalf of a sufficient number of Chinese residents in Hongkong, and who will undertake to be guided by the Registrar-General in the management of it.

The PRESIDENT—The report scarcely answers the questions referred to. It is for members to approve and adopt. The site has been suggested, but the rate of premium on each grave is not given. It is proposed that this site should be leased as a cemetery to one or more private individuals.

The VICE-PRESIDENT—The committee probably intended such private individuals to be representatives of the Chinese community at large. I move that the report be referred back so that they can make the matters quite clear in which the opinion of the Board was asked.

The PRESIDENT seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

NUISANCES AND NOTICES.

A letter from the PRESIDENT was read relative to a question put by Mr. A. Shelton Hooper, asking: Was it a fact that notices were always served for the abatement of a nuisance before prosecution? The letter was as follows:—The case referred to by Mr. Hooper of the tenant of No. 476 Queen's Road West, having been prosecuted in December 1906 for the erection of cubicles without the previous service of a notice, falls under part 3 of the Ordinance, and the prosecution was instituted with the sanction of the Building Authority. The house was a new one—just completed, in which the erection of cubicles is absolutely prohibited by the Ordinance. The other three summonses mentioned by Mr.

Hooper were taken at the same time for the same block of houses. His Excellency in the paper No. 25 of 1907 was referring to the Sanitary Board notices. This was the case of a Building nuisance, and the service of a notice in connection with a building nuisance is not compulsory, see proviso to section 230. The Building Authority, however, informs me that he has issued instructions to the effect that notices are to be served in all such cases in future previous to prosecution. I have forwarded a copy of this minute to the Colonial Secretary for the information of His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government.

Mr. HOOPER minuted:—His Excellency did not evidently grasp the recommendation of the Commission, as it was to meet the case mentioned under the proviso of section 230 that the Commissioners made such recommendation.

Mr. HOOPER—Sir, In amplification of my minute, and why I think His Excellency did not grasp it: the recommendation was that in no case should a prosecution be allowed unless notice to abate a nuisance had been served on the owner or occupier. The reply to that was that such notices were always served in case of nuisances. That is what made me ask the question and produce the cases I did at the last meeting. I as one of the commissioners, and, I think my colleagues, meant the recommendations for the future. It is not a matter of the past, so I think His Excellency did not quite grasp the question. He was alluding to the Ordinance as it exists to-day, and the proviso contained in section 230.

The PRESIDENT—The matter will be considered in connection with the Amending Ordinance.

PROPOSED ADDITIONS TO STANDING ORDERS.

It will be remembered that, in response to the letter from the Colonial Secretary, the Sanitary Board resolved to ask the Crown Solicitor to draft a new standing order to meet the case of a member who might be pecuniarily interested in a subject under discussion. The following standing orders were submitted by the Crown Solicitor:—

Any member may join in the discussion of any question in which he is or may be pecuniarily interested, but he may not vote upon any such question and shall withdraw before the question is put to the meeting.

In case of doubt as to whether a member is or may be pecuniarily interested in any question before the meeting, the member concerned shall withdraw, and the meeting shall then decide whether he is interested or not.

Mr. HOOPER minuted—I take it that the Board is asked to make the proposed additions to the Standing Orders under section 14 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, and as our power to do so is limited to make Standing Orders for "regulating its procedure at its meeting", it appears to me that to make an order disenfranchising any of its members or calling upon any of them to leave the room would be illegal.

The PRESIDENT—I have seen the Crown Solicitor on that point again this morning, and he agrees with me that it is competent for the Board to make these orders, because he thinks, as I do, that voting is part of the procedure of the Board. Therefore, I move that the two standing orders be added to the standing orders in force for the guidance of the Board.

The VICE-PRESIDENT seconded.

Mr. HOOPER—I beg to move an amendment that the matter stand over until our next meeting, and that in the meantime the Government be asked to take the opinion of the Attorney-General. I may say, Sir, that it has been laid down by Mr. Justice Lush that practice in its larger sense is like procedure, and denotes the mode of proceeding by which a legal right is enforced as distinguished from the law which gives or defines the right. I am here by law. The Ordinance gives power to the ratepayers of Hongkong to send to this body two representatives, of which I am one, and we have the power given us—no more and no less than that contained in the Ordinance—that we shall have notice of the Board meetings and attend here; that we shall vote, and that we are entitled to be present at every meeting. There is no qualification whatever. And for my colleagues here among themselves to press a byelaw or a subsidiary law and to request me to leave this

room, a power which one of those proposed standing orders gives them, is a gross injustice—not to myself; I don't care for myself—but to my constituents. Why should I not be allowed to be present on the occasion of voting when the Press are allowed to be present? One of your own members ordered out of the room! It is a position which if taken up is untenable. With regard to the other standing order on voting, I may say I am quite with the Government in principle. I think, for any member of the Board to deliberately give a vote in favour of himself, or on any motion in which he is directly pecuniarily interested, would be a very immoral and improper thing to do, and I would like to ask, Sir, whether during the time you have been president of this Board, you have ever known of such a thing being done. Speaking for myself, within the last eighteen months I have never known of one such case. Of course it is open if this is passed for any member of the community to go to the Courts to upset it, but that is an expensive thing which I don't think should be pressed on any member of the community by the Government of Hongkong, because after all it is initiated by the superior Government, and did not emanate from ourselves. I would therefore move that the matter be postponed; that the Government be communicated with and a copy of my remarks forwarded, and that the opinion of the Attorney-General be taken.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK—I beg to second the amendment. It is a very reasonable one.

The PRESIDENT—I am prepared to accept the amendment and refer the matter to the Attorney-General for his opinion.

Mr. HOOPER—I would like it to go through the Government with a copy of my remarks that they may know the reasons which actuated me.

The PRESIDENT agreed.

THE CONSERVANCY OF THE CITY.

The reports drawn up in 1880 and 1895 relative to W. C. s in the city were circulated.

Mr. SHELTON HOOPER minuted—Totally different conditions obtain to-day to those which existed in 1880 or even in 1895. We should deal with each case on its merits.

Mr. H. HUMPHREYS—I am in favour of allowing water closets in all dwellings that are provided with an ample water supply which is quite independent of the Government service, especially am I in favour when the houses are situated on the hillside or at the Peak. Under the present system a good deal of the sewage of the hill districts which is supposed to be carried away by coolies to the conservancy boats find its way into the various nullahs of the Colony. I am, however, opposed to the system being adopted universally on account of the difficulty of obtaining sufficient water, and also because it would be almost impossible to make the occupants of Chinese tenement houses keep the privies in a sanitary condition. I agree with everything contained in Mr. Crook's letter of February 20th, 1895.

Mr. HOOPER—I would like to ask the Water Authority whether there is any more water available for public use to-day than there was in 1895?

The Water Authority did not reply, and the report was laid on the table.

THE HEIGHT OF BUILDINGS.

Correspondence was submitted relative to a report by a committee on the height of buildings.

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL wrote thus to the Secretary: A report on the height to which buildings should be erected was made by a sub-committee of the Board in 1905. This report seems to have been lost sight of lately. I suggest that a copy be circulated among the members of the Board, and that a copy of this report be put together with other reports on the subject, and left for reference on the table.

Mr. HOOPER minuted—Each case should be dealt with on its merits.

The PRESIDENT—A new system of keeping records has been adopted, and if any member wants to see reports he will be able to.

OUR WATER.

The report of Mr. Frank Browne, the Government Analyst, on samples of water taken from the Pokfulam, Tytam, Kowloon and Cheungshawan services showed that the water was of excellent quality.

ANOTHER SANITARY IMPROVEMENT.

*There was further discussion on the application for the erection of latrines in back yards.

The PRESIDENT—Seventeen applications were considered at a meeting since the last meeting of the Board, and in sixteen out of the seventeen the Medical Officer's recommendations were supported, but one of the members opposed these. In other words, he considered that the applications should be granted, not refused. I wish to ask members what their intention was?

Mr. HOOPER—I admit I was in the minority, but letting alone the question as to whether the Board intended to give us power to act or not, I would like to tell the Board what actuated me in coming to my conclusion. Professor Simpson in his report on plague in Hongkong furnished suggestions as to remedial measures. He advised the Government to make a law with regard to latrines, and as a result of that suggestion I would refer you to sections 164 and 165 of our present Ordinance (reads). I think, Sir, on the face of the recommendation of Professor Simpson to the Government, and the Government having given effect to it by those two sections of the Ordinance, that you have no right to ask us to take away the latrines from these houses. I won't say it is quite illegal, but it seems to me to be adopting the course the Government did not wish us to, and which was not approved by Professor Simpson.

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL—I think the committee should be given full authority to deal with these cases. It would save a great deal of time.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK—I don't think we should go so far as that. I think that in any questions where the members of the committee don't agree, the matter should be referred back to the Board.

The PRESIDENT—The Medical Officer of Health points out that all of these buildings are old.

Mr. HOOPER—It is the duty of the Board under this section to call upon owners to provide means in accordance with the Ordinance. Otherwise we stultify our position.

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL moved that the Board delegate to a committee consisting of the President, the Captain Superintendent of Police, and Mr. Fung Wa-chun, authority to deal with all applications to maintain or erect latrines in back yards under section 15.

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

A QUIN-T PETITION.

The petition from Leung Tat Hing of 234 Hollywood Road asking that he be allowed to continue his trade there, the Board having ordered him to discontinue using the floor as such, was read. It stated "That your petitioner begs to state that he has been carrying on the trade of drying sausages and meats on the above floor over twenty years which is quite clean and no offensive matter thereon, so he begs that the notice may be withdrawn for which he will be ever grateful. That he further begs to state that the address No. 234 Hollywood Road mentioned in the notice is the place which he now occupies but the name Chung Shing Tso quite differed from his name Leung Tat Hing, and he does not know whether it is an error."

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

Mortality statistics were submitted. They showed that for the week ended June 1st, the death rate per 1,000 of the British and foreign community was 16.4 and for the whole Colony 20.8, as against 9.95 and 20.1 in the corresponding week of last year, for the week ended June 8th, 12.3 and 24.1 as against 39.9 and 37.1 and for the week ended June 15th, 28.7 and 21.3 respectively as against 24.9 and 2.6.

A kite flying fatality took place on the 5th July whereby a Portuguese youth named Antonio Gomes lost his life. Gomes and a companion, were flying kites from the roof of No. 40 Elgin Street, and when the kites were high in the air Gomes climbed on to the parapet to get a better view of another which he wished to cut. The latter however took a downward swoop and Gomes in trying to pull in so as to avoid entanglement lost his balance and fell into Shelley Street, a distance of 60 feet. He was quickly removed to the hospital but it was found that life was extinct.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 8th July.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE (SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT).

A MINOR'S RIGHTS.

An application was submitted on behalf of Li Cheung Shi (mother of Li Leung, a minor) to have an indenture of mortgage made between Li Leung and Tam Min Hing declared null and void, that the indenture be cancelled, and that the registration of the mortgage be expunged from the register. Mr. M. W. Slade (instructed by Mr. Harding) represented plaintiff and Sir Henry Berkeley (instructed by Mr. Otto Kong Song) represented the defendant.

The plaintiff was born in February 9th, 1886, and on March 16th, 1906, executed a mortgage whereby he purported to pass his estate and interest in the remaining portion of Marine Lot 163 for \$10,000.

Evidence was given as to birth, and the case was adjourned.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE.)

A WEALTHY LUNATIC.

An issue was tried before his Lordship and a jury as to whether Ki hit, eldest son of the late Pun Hang, who left a large estate, was a lunatic or not. Mr. H. G. Calthrop, instructed by Mr. E. P. H. Lang, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon, represented the interested parties. The jury was empanelled as follows: Messrs. E. T. Bunge, J. M. Irving, R. Miller, T. Slade, C. A. H. Westerburger, D. S. D. Burgor, P. E. G. Ilner, G. J. Catchick, R. W. Pearson, R. Seydler, J. Paterson, F. Gomes, A. R. Blake, P. Prien and A. W. Watt.

Mr. Calthrop stated that the questions to be decided were whether the young man, who was present in Court, was of unsound mind and unable to manage his affairs. His father died in 1901 or 1902 leaving a very large estate, and this young man would become the sole trustee of it when he became of age. He reached his majority quite recently, but owing to his mental condition it was impossible for him to carry out the trust of the will. It became necessary to inquire into his mental condition and ascertain whether he was or was not a lunatic.

The mother of the young man deposed that he, the eldest of six children, has been of a very nervous disposition since he was six years old. At that age a swelling appeared on his forehead. He was subject to fits of anger and laughter, was very fond of playing with matches and burning paper, and had a habit of tearing his clothes and shoes, and also breaking furniture. He smoked all the cigars and cigarettes he could find and drank all the wine in the house, frequently becoming intoxicated. He was afraid to go out alone, had a great horror of watchmen and was terrified at the report of firearms. He spent most of the day sitting down and mumbling to himself and he rarely ever spoke to anyone. In the sixth month of last year he secreted some soap and ate it, while during a heavy fall of rain he took some cushions into the middle of the yard and sat down on them.

The present trustee gave similar evidence, adding that the young man was unaware of the value of money. He would prefer a cigar to \$100.

Other evidence was given in which it was stated that the amah had to put on his shoes and stockings.

Medical testimony was adduced that he was neither capable of managing his own affairs or looking after himself.

The jury found accordingly.

Thursday, July 11th.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE.)

WRIT WITHDRAWN.

An action was brought by the Shung Lee firm against Chan Chun Lam and Lam Woon Tong, partners in the Hong Fat shop for \$324

goods sold and delivered. Mr. Otto Kong Sing appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. O. D. Thomson for the defendants.

From evidence it appeared that plaintiff lived at Pakhoi and brought the action under the shopname. Mr. Thomson contended that a shop could not sue.

His Honour—He got me to make an order for defendants to find security for \$600.

Mr. Thomson—Plaintiff has admittedly given a wrong address. One would think he was carrying on business at Yaumati.

Mr. Otto Kong Sing—My instructions were that the men were living in the Colony. The goods were delivered in Hongkong. I would ask leave to amend the writ. The case ought to be decided on its merits. Defendants offered \$250 to withdraw the action.

His Honour—I shall allow you to withdraw the writ with leave to issue a fresh one, and I shall annul the order for security. Plaintiff must pay the costs of the present action.

MARINE COURT.

Monday, July 8th.

THE "HEUNGSHAN" "FOOK ON" COLLISION.

A Marine Court of inquiry respecting the circumstances attending the collision between the British steamer "Heungshan," Captain R. D. Thomas, and the licensed steam launch "Fook On," of which Li Muk is master, was held at the Harbour Office yesterday afternoon, being called at the request of the captain of the "Heungshan." The Court was composed of Commander Basil R. H. Taylor, R.N., Stipendiary Magistrate, (President), Lieutenant H. Butterworth, R.N., H.M.S. "Tamar," Captain E. Beetham, s.s. "Empress of India," Captain A. Stoker, s.s. "Woolwich," and Captain H. W. Walker of the s.s. "Kwong Tung."

The warrant constituting the Court having been read,

Captain Thomas, master of the s.s. "Heungshan," was called. He stated that on June 28th he left Canton at eight in the morning, arriving here about 3 p.m. He entered the harbour by the southern fairway, coming in slowly. When off the "Charles Hardouin's" Wharf and making for the Hongkong Canton and Macao Steamboats' Wharf, witness sighted a steam launch backing out from the east side of the "Kwong Tung" which lies at the wharf west of the Western Market wharf. He was then distant about two ships length, and blew two blasts. The "Heungshan's" engines were then going slow, having been slowed down when near the Gas Works. When entering the harbour the "Heungshan" was not travelling more than four knots. Witness did not blow three blasts on his whistle because when launches come out from a wharf they go to the west of steamers coming in. If he had blown three blasts the launch might have thought he was going astern and attempted to cross his bows. If the launch had gone ahead she would not have approached within fifty feet of the steamer. Her engines were apparently going slow at the time. While the launch was still on the starboard bow of the steamer, and distant about 100 feet, all the men left the wheel and went aft. Then when witness saw a collision was imminent he ordered the mate to clear away the ropes and lower them. Then he struck the launch on her starboard bow with the vessel's stern, the cut being about two feet. Four of the crew of the launch were pulled on board with the ropes; the others jumped overboard and lifebuoys were thrown to them. After striking the launch witness put his helm hard aport and his engines slow ahead in order to cant the launch. There was a strong tide running at the time.

Chief Officer Gibson of the s.s. "Heungshan" said when the ship at first entered the southern fairway he was at the fore'sle head. They entered the southern fairway about 2.50 a.m., and passed the bows of the "Charles Hardouin" at a distance of at least 50 feet. They had only passed when they saw the launch coming from the direction of the Li Kee Wharf. When she was sighted the "Heungshan" gave two blasts; the telegraph also went and the ship's head went to port immediately afterwards. About a

minute or two later the telegraph went again and the ship went astern. The launch was then two ship's lengths on the steamer's starboard bow. Witness did not think the steam launch altered her engines. The launch was then struck on the starboard bow by the stern of the "Heungshan," no member of the crew of the "Fook On" being at the wheel at the time.

G. W. Kew and J. Roberts, the first and second engineers on the s.s. "Heungshan," gave evidence as to the time when the telegraph bell was rung and the engines reversed.

Li Muk, coxswain of the "Fook On," said his certificate went down with the steam launch. On June 28th at 3.15 p.m. he backed his launch out from the Li Kee wharf, intending to steer west. He gave three blasts on his whistle before backing his launch out, and when about seventy feet from the wharf he saw the "Heungshan" about 100 feet off. He rang up to go ahead, but the bell wire broke. Witness shouted to his engineer to go ahead, and he did. Then when the "Heungshan" approached witness told his crew to run away; afterwards he threw some bags overboard. He was the last man to leave the launch. Jumping overboard after the collision, he was picked up by a passing sampan. The shroff who went below to get the money just before the collision was drowned.

Captain Thomas—How was it that the coxswain's certificate was handed to a sergeant of the Water Police?

Witness—I went to the launch afterwards, but could not find it.

Captain Thomas—How is it the No. 2 coxswain took the launch from the wharf?

The President—These seem unnecessary questions, Captain Thomas.

Captain Thomas—They lead to this, Sir: This man was the only one who boarded the "Heungshan" dry, and yet he says he was the last to jump off the sinking launch into the water.

The President (to witness)—You say you were on board at the time of the accident?—Yes.

And you jumped overboard?—Yes.

Then how was it you were quite dry when you boarded the "Heungshan"?—I did not go aboard the "Heungshan."

Second Engineer Roberts recalled, said the witness boarded the steamer about ten minutes after the collision, and he was the only man who was not wet.

The inquiry was adjourned.

HONGKONG PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the Hongkong Philharmonic Society was held in the City Hall on July 8th when His Excellency Hon. Mr. F. H. May presided over a large attendance of members.

The report and accounts for the last session having been received and adopted, the election of officers was proceeded with. The Hon. Mr. May was re-elected president, and the re-election of the following officers was agreed upon: Mr. Denman Fuller, hon. conductor; Mr. R. D. Sayle, hon. secretary; and Mr. E. S. Carruthers, hon. treasurer. Messrs. A. Tuxford and W. A. Dowley were re-elected to the committee, the new members elected being Messrs. F. I. Gelsthorpe and F. C. Barlow. It was also agreed that the revised rules, read by the Secretary, should be passed.

HIS EXCELLENCY said when he first arrived in the Colony a society was originated, he believed, by the German element, but this was squashed by the serio-comic element imported from England. When he returned in 1903 after a trip, he was very pleased to find the Society was on such a sound basis, and he was very pleased to see it now in a flourishing condition financially, and also in its having the services of Mr. Denman Fuller as conductor (cheers.)

The report read:—During the past season 1906-7 ending 31st June, 1907, the Society has been enabled, thanks to the energy and keen interest shown by Mr. Denman Fuller and members, to give two concerts, the first on 18th January, 1907, with a repetition on the 21st idem, and the second on 15th May, 1907, all being well attended by the public, especially the first concert when Elgar's Cantata "The

"Banner of St. George" was performed by a Chorus and Orchestra of over sixty members. Besides the above, the Orchestra at the invitation of Sir Matthew Nathan, K.C.M.G., performed at Government House on 21st March, 1907. The concerts given in the City Hall were a success financially; but left only a very small profit, due to the heavy expenses which are always incurred in connection with the giving of concerts in the Colony. The Committee, however, feel confident that by taking much of the work into their own hands they will be able to considerably curtail the cost of future concerts. The membership shows an increase on that of last year, the total at the present time, including honorary and active members being 77 in all. It is hoped that during the coming season the Society may by showing the residents of the Colony that their work is for the mutual benefit of all; and induce more honorary members to join. Messrs. Barlow, Beavis, Bovet and Edwards on leaving the Colony retired from the Committee, also Messrs. Austin and Lammert have resigned owing to their being unable to attend the monthly meetings. Mr. W. A. Dowley, who has had considerable experience with various musical societies, has joined the Committee.

The Committee desire to place on record their great appreciation and thanks to Mr. Denman Fuller for the keen interest he has shown in the Society's welfare since undertaking the arduous duties of Hon. Conductor, and for the very able way in which he has trained the Chorus and Orchestra during that period. In conclusion the Committee beg to tender their thanks to members for the assistance rendered at the concerts and trust that help will again be forthcoming during the coming season, also to Messrs. Cochrane and Ellis for kindly auditing the accounts.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

June 11th.

GOVERNMENT SHERIFFS ABSCOND

On Monday, when it was time for business to begin in the license department of the Fazenda, three of the Chinese clerks had failed to put in an appearance. A little inquiry went to show that they had left the Colony and taken with them a considerable amount of money representing license fees paid in to the Fazenda. Information was dispatched to Hongkong and Canton, and detectives have been sent to assist in the search. It appears that these clerks took the fees tendered but told the applicants that the licences could not be handed to them immediately as they had to be passed. In this way they managed to collect a considerable sum, and then bolted. The public are now wanting to know who is responsible for the laxity thus revealed?

CAPTAIN MORRISON FINED.

Captain Morrison, the popular commander of the *Sui Tai* was on Monday sentenced to three days' imprisonment, but he chose the alternative of paying the small fine of 100 reis per day. The charge against him was one of assaulting a Portuguese resident of the Colony. The affair occurred on the steamer wharf a week or more ago and Captain Morrison was arrested. He was not detained long, however, but liberated on bail.

COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE POLICE.

Now and then one hears complaints as to the way the police of the Colony perform their duties, but the men are not, I think, so much to be blamed as their officers. A common complaint, for example, is that jinrickisha traffic is often stopped by the police in Rua de Gamboa, leading to the steamer wharves, and sometimes this is done in so rough a manner that the ricksha pullers as well as their fares narrowly escape serious injury. There is an order forbidding ricksha traffic in Calçada de Gamboa, but I am not aware that there is any forbidding such traffic in Rua de Gamboa, nor is there any call for such an order. It is very annoying to see visitors coming from the steamers stopped by the police in this street, and ordered by menacing gestures, in case the policeman's language is not understood, to leave their rickshas. Perhaps this mention of the matter will result in the officers instructing their men that Rua de Gamboa is not the Calçada de Gamboa.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE SUBSIDIARY COINAGE QUESTION.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE HONGKONG "DAILY PRESS.")

SIR,—*Appropos* the Government's announcement that all Hongkong subsidiary coins received by the Government Departments are being retained and not re-issued, the step is one in the right direction, but it would be interesting to learn from the Government how long in their opinion it is likely to take to rehabilitate by this slow process, the subsidiary coinage of the Colony?

The Government's object is "to reduce the amount in circulation to that required by the necessities of business in the Colony." That amount is popularly estimated at something like two or three million dollars' worth, whereas the Government has issued forty million dollars' worth, and their hesitation to deal with the evils resulting in recent years from the depreciation of these coins has apparently been due to a belief that all these coins are still in existence and that they are under an obligation to redeem them. Hence any heroic measure was impossible because of the cost which it would entail.

By the measure just announced, if anything like the whole of these forty million dollars' worth of coins still exist, it will take the Government at least thirty years "to reduce the amount of such coinage in circulation to that required by the necessities of business in the Colony"—for I suppose the Government Departments are not loaded with more than one million dollars' worth of these coins a year, if as much.

The chief value of the step the Government has taken, it seems to me, is that it will serve to show what the possibilities are of a return of Hongkong coins to the Colony and thus put the Government in a better position to consider, if it should appear necessary, some method of more rapidly reaching the end in view.

If the community would heed the Government's warning and demand 111 cents to the dollar when Chinese subsidiary coins are tendered, the result would doubtless be to bring back from Kwangtung the Hongkong coins which are circulating throughout the province. But would that be altogether desirable? The exchange quotations for Hongkong subsidiary coins given in to-day's *Daily Press* shows the discount rates on 20-cent pieces to be 7.70 per cent. and on 10-cent pieces 8.00 per cent. The Government's warning, if effective, would have the result of withdrawing Hongkong coins from circulation in the province of Kwangtung, and they would probably be returned to the Colony in shiploads. And the effect on exchange rates would be—What? Certainly the rates would not be improved thereby, and the Government's remedial measure looks for all the world like a huge joke. However, until we see the result of the Government's action it will be consoling to cherish a hope that the bulk of those forty million dollars' worth of subsidiary coins have already been melted down by speculating Chinese, and that the object of the Government may be attained in something less than thirty years. Yours truly,

CHOPPED DOLLAR.

Hongkong, July 8th.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS.")

Hongkong 10th July, 1907.

SIR,—I hope the discussion which has arisen on the Government's notification with regard to Subsidiary Coins will result in a statement being made at the next meeting of the Legislative Council which will explain why the Government does not declare Chinese subsidiary coins to be illegal tender in the Colony. It seems to me that only by that means are we likely to see Hongkong coins predominate among our "small change." No redemption scheme is of much use without it.

With reference, sir, to the remarks on this question of redemption in your interesting

leading article I disagree with the view that honesty obliges the Government to redeem all the coin it has issued. If it were true that the Government "undertook to stock the Chinese empire with subsidiary coinage" then I would agree with you. But they undertook nothing of the sort. They undertook to stock the Colony of Hongkong only, and they found that as fast as supplies of subsidiary coins were issued they disappeared into China, and there was consequently a chronic scarcity of subsidiary coins in Hongkong causing great inconvenience to trade. It was not out of any eagerness to pocket the seigniorage that Government continued to issue these coins, but to meet the urgent needs of the Colony. You can stop the import of coins much more effectually than you can stop their export, and I am one of those who would consider the Government justified in limiting their liability for the redemption of these coins.

Redemption at par to any amount is, I fear, an impossible proposal at the present time. If we assume that three-fourths of these coins are still in existence a loan of a couple of millions of dollars would be necessary as a Redemption Fund. The interest on this at, say, 4 per cent. would be \$80,000 a year, and, if the Government redeemed not more than five millions a year, the annual cost to the Colony would be nearly seven lakhs of dollars. The repayment of the principal would have to be postponed to the Greek Calends in view of the decline in extraordinary revenue and the threatened loss of one-fifth of the ordinary revenue by the extinction of the opium trade.—Yours truly,

CHOPPED DOLLAR.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS.")

Hongkong, 10th July 1907.

DEAR SIR,—I agree with your leader in this morning's paper. The policy of this Government in repudiating its own coinage, like a Bank repudiating its own notes, is dishonest.

As soon as the Hongkong coins are sent home, Chinese coins are imported to fill the gap—of course, it pays the Banks, compradores, money changers, and other middlemen.

Silver dollars are scarce, and here is a splendid opportunity for the Banks to demand a premium on their own notes, so who can blame them for bluffing the Government?

Now let the Government be honest and own up to its own dishonesty. Let it fix the discount on Hongkong coin, say, at 5 per cent. discount, and let it redeem all Hongkong coin at that rate. We shall then have a fixed coinage and know where we are. The only way to drive out the Chinese coin is to make the Hongkong coin more valuable. The Hongkong coin at 5 per cent. discount will be almost 3 per cent. better than the Chinese coin and the latter will soon disappear from the market.

Let the Government buy at 5 per cent. discount; it will be cheaper, quicker and more practical than sending coin home to be melted down. Besides we may be able to locate the millions of Hongkong coin!

Has this idea ever struck you?

Yours faithfully,

W. H. P.

VISITORS FROM THE NORTH.

AND THE ALLEGED OBJECT OF THEIR VISIT.

An interesting case was heard before Mr. G. N. Orme at the Police Court on July 9th, the defendant being a woman from Kwangsi who brought with her to Hongkong her two sons and a male acquaintance, the latter, it was alleged, to assist her in selling her children. On Monday evening, apparently in great agitation, the woman appeared at the Central Police Station and told the detectives that a man named Leung had taken her eldest boy out for a walk, returning later without him. When she asked what had become of her child, this man would not give a direct reply, but told her it would be unsafe for her to go out of the house, or she would be set upon by foreigners. She escaped, however, went to the Police Station, and as stated, told the police that her boy had been stolen. The detectives at

first were inclined to believe that her story was true, but systematic inquiries revealed the fact that the woman had sold her child to a fatherless gentleman in Connaught Road for \$40. This was proved beyond doubt when the purchaser produced a receipt for the money, and the arrest of the woman followed. She appeared before the Court on a charge of obtaining money by false pretences.

Kwong Fo, the man who accompanied her from the north, stated that he did so at her request. The woman told him she wanted to bring her two sons here and sell them.

His Worship—And you felt pleased?

Witness—Not much pleased.

His Worship—What made you come down then?

Witness—It was such a good chance.

Proceeding, witness said an agreement was come to with a local man who purchased her boy for \$40. He did not share in the profits.

His Worship—It is questionable whether this is a case of false pretences.

Inspector Hanson—The defendant came to the Police Station after having sold her child for \$40, made a false report, and wanted to get her child back.

His Worship adjourned the case to hear further evidence.

The woman from Kwangsi who was charged before Mr. G. N. Orme with obtaining \$40 by false pretences, in that she sold her son for that amount and then informed the detectives that he had been kidnapped, was discharged, his Worship holding that it was not a case of false pretences. The question as to the present ownership of the boy is to be referred to the Registrar-General.

NEW TERRITORY NOTES.

The first rice crop is very uneven this year, owing to the late spring and the lack of water. Some of the crop has been cut, but other portions remain green yet. Neither is the yield of grain up to the average of past years, but a great many fields that were allowed to be waste for want of water are now being ploughed in readiness for the second crop.

Among the other crops peanuts and sugar cane look very healthy, especially the former which may be expected to yield a good crop.

In spite of many drawbacks, progress is being made with bridge building on the railway route. Sickness among the labourers engaged in digging the foundations is not infrequent, and the constant pumping necessary to keep the foundations clear considerably retards the work. On the whole the undertaking is progressing satisfactorily.

With the advent of the railway the country shows signs of its coming prosperity. Villages are putting on an improved appearance, and new houses in new localities are being constructed. The village loafer is not so much in evidence as formerly, as the railway has given employment to the surplus population.

THE PROPOSED SHANGHAI EXHIBITION.

As the proposal to hold an International Exhibition of Foreign Manufactures in Shanghai bids fair to meet with a generous measure of support in Europe, America and Japan, as well as in British Colonies, the work of building up a local guarantee fund has now been started, and the following sums have been guaranteed. It is suggested that the Exhibition should be held in 1909, and consequently no time should be lost in securing the requisite guarantee fund, which is only a preliminary step towards the larger task of inaugurating a successful Exhibition.

The amounts guaranteed on July 4th were:—

	\$	Tls.
Jardine, Matheson & Co. Ltd.	5,000	
The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank	5,000	
A. R. Burkill & Son	1,000	
Ilbert & Co.	1,000	
Andersen, Meyer & Co.		1,000
Gibb, Livingston & Co.		1,000
D. Siffert, Esq.	500	
	12,500	2,000

WHANGPOO RIVER CONSERVANCY.

During 1906, early in the year, Mr. J. de Rijke arrived in Shanghai to take up his appointment as Engineer-in-Chief to the Whangpoo River Conservancy Board under the Directors, the Taotai of Shanghai, Jui Chéng, and the Shanghai Commissioner of Customs, Mr. H. E. Hobson. The work of the Conservancy Board has up to now been mainly of a preparatory nature, surveying the river, training workmen in shore defence work, and drawing up the plans and specifications necessary for future undertakings. The main features of Mr. de Rijke's plans are:—

1. The diverting of the stream from Ship Channel on the northern side of Gough Island to Junk Channel on the southern side, thereby avoiding the almost right angle turn over the Inner Bar into Ship Channel, so much complained of by navigators.

2. The construction of a large training jetty at Woosung, nearly a mile in length, from Princes Pier to the Spit buoy on the Outer Bar.

3. The construction of training works, where needed, and especially in the vicinity of Gough Island, to bring the river to an easy curve and normal width from above the Chinese city to Woosung, and cut away Pheasant Point and other pieces where widening is necessary.

The enormous difficulty of the work will be apparent to everyone when it is realised that while Junk Channel is being made the waterway for shipping, the former channel (Ship Channel), on the Pootung side of Gough Island, must be kept open and gradually shoaled; to do this, huge mattresses of brushwood weighted with stones will be gradually sunk at the upper end of Ship Channel (laying the foundation for training dikes), causing the river bed to gradually silt up and forcing the stream, with the help of training works, towards the Shanghai side of Gough Island, that is, into Junk Channel. The jetty at Woosung will serve the double purpose of keeping out deleterious matter brought down by the Yangtze and of guiding the ebb and consequently the flood tide in the desired direction. For this jetty, test piles, to discover the nature of the bottom, were driven in December along its proposed site; borings were also made to a depth of 20 to 25 feet below river bottom for a similar purpose, and in Junk Channel and elsewhere with a view to estimating the cost of dredging. For the construction of the jetty from Princes Pier to Spit Buoy, and for dredging work up to a maximum of 2 million taels, tenders were invited. Only four competitors came forward, representing Dutch, French, German, and Japanese firms, it being remarkable that no British contractor tendered and only one American firm made any inquiries about the work. The tenders, which are to hold good for three months, that is, to the 1st June, are still under consideration; but it may be said that the German firm's tender for the dredging work was far lower than any other, and the Japanese firm's figures for the construction of the jetty were also far below of the other tenderers. Plans showing the normal lines laid down by Mr. de Rijke have been made and handed to the Harbour Authorities at the Custom House, to enable riparian owners to see to what distance their frontage may be advanced—or the reverse,—but definite rules as to the purchase of accreted land and to ensure a regular advance along the frontage line where necessary have still to be laid down. The training works on Gough Island are now well under way, though great difficulty has been experienced in obtaining a continuous supply of the brushwood required for fascine work, other materials, such as stone, reeds, "gabbioni" (long bamboo cylinders which are wrapped with brushwood, filled with stone, and sunk for shore defence), etc., are easily procurable; but unless a larger and better field for brushwood than the Hingchow district is discovered before the Woosung Jetty and other large works commence the difficulty will probably become acute and hinder operations considerably. Willow shoots, however, have been imported from Holland and planted on the land purchased by the Conservancy Board at Gough Island, and it is expected that in a few years they will yield quite a large supply of fascines for brushwood work. The latest report says

the Conservancy nurseries are doing splendidly. Continuous surveying operations of great interest have been made by Mr. Muller and the survey staff, which indicate an almost incredible amount of silting up in Junk Channel during 1906, owing to heavy rains (which caused the famine) and high water in the Yangtze, reducing to a minimum the strength of the flood tides, which ought to scour Junk Channel, and, consequently, largely increasing the probable cost of Conservancy dredging operations in that part of the river. The Nanking Viceroy recently requested the Conservancy Board to consult with the Engineer-in-Chief, Mr. de Rijke, as to the advisability of trying on the Whangpoo, instead of dredgers, the raking system which Mr. Ferguson employed with such signal success on the Taku Bar, thus effecting a huge saving in expense, if found suitable, and avoiding the necessity of raising a loan to carry on the work; but as in Mr. de Rijke's opinion the raking system would not be sufficiently powerful for starting a channel in Junk Channel, it is improbable that the scheme will be given a trial. A plan showing the normal lines as laid down by Mr. de Rijke, together with the proposed improvements as far as at present known, is attached to this report. —By Mr. H. E. Hobson, a Director of the Conservancy Board, in Customs Returns, vol. III., 1907.

KULANGSU (AMOY) MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Minutes of a meeting of the Council, held at the Board Room, on the 18th June 1907.

Present:—Messrs. W. H. Wallace, C. A. V. Bowra, V. Kruse, Hung Ts'an-chew, S. Okuyama, W. Wilson, the Health Officer and the Secretary.

1. The minutes of the last meeting are read, and confirmed.

2. The Superintendent of Police reports a series of robberies which have taken place recently, and he is directed to ascertain from the British Consul whether some arrangement with the Singapore and Hongkong authorities cannot be come to, by which the Police would be furnished with photographs and detailed descriptions of all bad characters deported to Amoy. He is also directed to come to some more satisfactory arrangement as regards the Maff.

3. On the motion of Mr. Bowra, it is decided to drain and fill in some low lying ground opposite the house occupied by Mr. Armour, and to improve the drainage of the road.

4. The Superintendent of Police reports the following cases have been heard in the Mixed Court since the last meeting:—

SUMMONSES.

Assault 2, Fighting 1, Debt 4, Obstruction 1, Failing to report a case of plague 1.

SUMMARY ARRESTS.

Committing a nuisance 2, Assault 1, Perjury 1, Theft 1, Burglary 2, Not carrying a light after midnight 3, Failing to report a case of plague 1, Obstructing the Police 1, Being found on enclosed premises &c. 1, Being a rogue and a vagabond 1.

(Signed) W. H. WALLACE,
Chairman.

By order,
C. BERKELEY MITCHELL,
Secretary.

A CHINESE OPIUM DODGE.

We have received the following copy of a letter to Sir Pelham Warren, British Consul at Shanghai, for publication:—

Shanghai, 27th June, 1907.

Sir,—We beg to bring to your notice the following:—

Some of the Chinese opium dealers here have received information from their constituents in Nanking that the Viceroy there intends granting the monopoly of the opium trade in Nanking to a few dealers, who only will be allowed to import opium there. So far no official notification has been issued: but as there is every probability of its coming into force at any moment, and subsequently a similar monopoly is intended to be given here and elsewhere, we think it advisable to lay the matter before you so that immediate steps may be taken to stop its being carried into effect.

Such monopolies would prevent other dealers from participating in the opium trade thus destroying the healthy competition and thereby crippling the business and causing heavy losses to importers who will be at the mercy of the few who hold the monopolies, as regards prices, etc.

It would also be greatly prejudicial to the interest of the Indian Government if such a scheme is permitted to be enforced especially in the present unsettled and unsatisfactory state of the opium trade, owing to the action of the Chinese Government.

Government in closing up the public smoking dens, and importers, in view of the further uncertainty of demand from those who would hold the monopoly, would curtail importation, which would mean a material reduction of their purchases from the Government of India's monthly sales.

We therefore beg to request you to be good enough to take immediate action and oppose the movement and, if necessary, to communicate with H.B.M.'s Minister at Peking, as it is in contravention of Article X of the treaty of Nanking of 1842 which provides that British merchandise having paid the regulated Customs and dues such merchandise may be conveyed by Chinese merchants to any province or city in the empire of China.

The said monopoly, if granted, would therefore be tantamount to placing restrictions on Chinese merchants in general.

We may add that we are afraid, if the monopoly is given that the Chinese Officials may push the consumption of native opium to the detriment of foreign drug.

We remain, Sir,

Your most obedient servants,
DAVID SASSOON & Co., LD.
E. D. SASSOON & Co.
E. PABANEY.
CAWASJEE PALLANJEE & Co.
S. J. DAVID & Co.
TATA & Co.
A. EBRAHIM & Co.
D. E. J. ABRAHAM.
P. B. PETIT & Co.
TALATI & Co. AND OTHERS.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

HANKOW, 3rd July, 1907.—Business reported since the 26th ulto., is as under:—

	1907.	1906.
Settlements	7,017	9,060

The following are Statistics at date compared with the corresponding circular of last season viz., 4th July, 1906.

	1907.	1906.
HANKOW TEA.	1-Chests.	1-Chests.
Settlements	369,294	291,071
Stock	12,047	81,467

Arrivals	381,341	372,558
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	1907.	1906.
KIUKIANG TEA.	1-Chests.	1-Chests.
Settlements	169,470	148,432
Stock	15,962	13,790
Arrivals	185,432	162,222

SILK.

CANTON, 12th June, 1907.—Settlements of Silk. The Silk Market was fairly active at the beginning of the fortnight, but at the close it is dull with a strong downward tendency for Europe and America. Holders appear to have lost all confidence in face of the future large crops, and are anxious to sell; therefore we expect a heavy fall in prices. The Wa-to Market is irregular and fluctuating in Canton, though in the country the prices are still well held. Dealers do not seem disposed to make such large concessions as for Raw Silk now. Stock of Silk in Canton: 1,800 bales.

OPIMUM.

HONGKONG, July 11th.

Quotations are:—Allowance net to 1 catty.		
Malwa New	\$800	to — per picul.
Malwa Old	\$830	to — do.
Malwa Older	\$860	to — do.
Malwa Very Old	\$920	to — do.
Persian Fine Quality	\$600	to — do.
Persian Extra Fine	\$650	to — do.
Patna New	\$835	to — per chest.
Patna Old	—	to — do.
Benares New	\$830	to — do.
Benares Old	—	to — do.

COAL.

Messrs. Hughes and Hough, in their Coal Report of 12th July, state that 24 steamers are expected at Hongkong with a total of 83,800 tons of coal. Since June 27th, 20 steamers have arrived with a total of 72,856 tons of coal.

Cardiff—neglected. Small sales have been made of Australian at \$12 ex-ship. Japanese—sales of 5,000 tons are reported, terms private. Market generally dull.

Quotations:—

Cardiff	\$14.00 to 15.00 ex-ship, nominal.
Australian	\$11.50 to \$12.00 ex-ship, nominal.
Yubari Lump	\$12.00 nominal.
Miki Lump	\$10.00 nominal.
Moji Lump	\$6.00 to \$8.00 ex-ship, steady.
Moji Unscreened	\$6.00 to \$7.50 ex-ship, steady.
Akaike Lump	\$7.75 to \$8.00 steady.
Labuan Lump	\$8.00 nominal.

RAW COTTON.

HONGKONG, 15th June.—Good business put through. Stock about 1,400 bales.

Bombay	\$17.50 to \$20.50 per picul.
Bengal (New), Rangoon	—
and Dacca	20.50 to 22.00
Shanghai and Japanese	25.00 to 26.00
Tungchow and Ningpo	25.00 to 26.00

Reported sales, 700 bales.

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee, in his Report dated Hongkong, 12th July, states:—As advised in last report the large purchases of Indian Yarn made by continental buyers in Bombay have reacted very beneficially on our market here, and we have now to report an extensive business at an advance of \$1 to \$7 per bale. Nos. 10s and 12s have attracted by far the greatest amount of attention, participating largely in the improvement, and comprising nearly three-fourths of the total settlements. Although values have appreciated considerably they are still much below replacing cost. Supplies are running down, and if shipments are maintained on their present scale importers will have a chance of working off old holdings which have been unsaleable for many months. Stocks are by no means excessive, and after allowing for unsaleable goods, must be considered within very narrow limits. On the whole, considering the season of the year, the paucity of yarn in the interior, limited shipments and decreasing stocks, prospects ahead appear encouraging.

Sales of the interval aggregate 13,782 bales, arrivals amount to 5,135, stocks estimated at 45,000, and sold but uncleared goods in second hands 41,000 bales.

Local Manufacture:—After some interval there has been a little movement in these threads, and sales of 515 bales of No. 10s at from \$83 to \$85 are reported.

Japanese Yarn:—A quiet but steady business is being done in these spinings, and sales of the interval include 270 bales No. 16s at from \$115 to \$121, and 490 bales No. 20s at \$122 to \$129.

Raw Cotton:—The market is lifeless and despite the violent fluctuations on the other side, and easy sellers here, no offer whatever both in India and China descriptions can be induced. Stocks estimated at 1,690 bales Indian, and 560 bales China. Quotations are \$16 to \$20 Bengals, and \$21 to \$24 China.

Exchange on India, after some fluctuations, closes unsteady to-day at Rs. 163½ for T.T. and Rs. 163 for Post. On Shanghai 73 and on Japan 107.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended 6th instant, viz:—

Indian:—There has been a strong demand for No. 10s and 20s and sales to the extent of 13,000 bales are reported, prices showing an advance of 1 to 3 Taels and market closing very firm. Estimated stock 145,000 bales.

Japanese:—There has been an easier feeling in these threads owing to large stock, and sales reported are 1,500 bales on the basis of Tls. 85½ to 90½ for No. 16s, and Tls. 91 to 97 for No. 2's.

Local:—After a long interval there has been some movement in these spinings and 500 bales No. 16s Blue Dragon are reported sold at Tls 61.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, dated Shanghai, 4th July, 1907, has the following:—The opening of the Chinese Custom House at Dalny on the 1st instant is duly announced, with the additional information that the Chinese flag now flies above it and in many cases duty has been paid for transportation northwards. That is a step in the right direction, and supplements a letter published here this morning from the leading foreign firms in Newchwang, but bearing no date, pointing out the disabilities which the port has been suffering ever since the war, and adds that "if the recent arrangements between H.E. Baron Goto and the mercantile representatives of the Port be strictly adhered to it should go a long way towards the resuscitation of the port, restore it to its former position amongst the treaty ports of China; and, if the Tairen customs are really to be inaugurated on the 1st proximo it is not unreasonable to hope for a new era of prosperity for the port." The letter then animadverts on the very poor support received from the foreign banks in assisting to reinstate the trade of the port, and instances the case of one which is chiefly engaged in trying to collect old outstandings instead of fresh loans. Then there is a complaint of the establishment of unauthorised likin barriers, which deters exports, and so long as that continues so long will there be a stultification of that branch of trade. At a subsequent interview with the Taotai, however, that official could only promise to look into the matter, and now that the Custom House at Dalny is an accomplished fact no doubt some of the old glory will return to Newchwang. From the Tientsin district the news is not so satisfactory. In the first place rain is badly needed and all the praying energies of the mandarinates have been requisitioned by the Emperor. But the most pressing trouble is the effect of the curtailment of credit by the foreign banks. It has evidently struck right home, good and hard, so much so that it may be necessary to make some temporary modifications to relieve the severe pressure that is being felt there. It is announced from Peking that several more inland towns and cities in Manchuria are to be thrown open to foreign trade, but the right of residence is reserved for the present. The Manchester market is at a standstill owing to the advance in cotton, which comes to-day 7.42d. for Mid-American spot. "Futures" were quoted 6.8d. at the same time as spot was 7.22d. This seems to have effected Egyptian also, to-day's quotation being 10.5d. From New York the latest advices give 12.28 cents for October and 12.36 cents for January "option." We have heard of higher prices being wanted there for goods but cannot get them confirmed. The Export of Plain Cottons from Lancashire last month was 19,000,000 yards to Hongkong and China. There is certainly much more life in the market and clearances are improving. Fresh business from stock, that is from first hands, is naturally limited, as very few firms have stocks of their own to sell, though carrying large quantities for native account. Those that are in the position have met with considerable enquiry and have responded to a moderate extent, their reserve being due the great discrepancy between the prices current to here and the cost of replacing. It is difficult to give, or even to glean, particulars, writing now, of course of Manchester goods, but the demand seems to be chiefly for good 10-lb. Shirtings, of which a fair quantity appears to have been settled. White Shirtings have also met with some attention, and consignees have taken the opportunity of disposing of some of the consignments Manchester has so considerably thrust on a congested market.

Messrs. Ilbert & Co.'s Piece Goods Report dated Shanghai, July 4th, 1907, states:—Business during the week has continued upon an active footing, the greater majority of sales, however, being still inter-native transactions, but the volume of clearances from stock is improving steadily, and prices for English staple goods are at length responding in a marked degree to the higher basis necessary for replacement, although in nearly every instance there is still a wide margin yet to be bridged before fresh transactions can be consummated. The Yangtze markets are firm throughout and have purchased freely from existent stocks of common 10 and 12-lb. Shirtings, also medium qualities or White Shirtings, and Hankow merchants have bought some 600 cases of low quality First Black Italians from stock. Bombay Yarns also have strengthened all round owing to Tientsin and Newchwang buyers having come into the market, and prices show an improvement of about T. 2 all round for 20s and 16s, whilst 10s and 12s also have advanced about a tael and a half. In American goods Newchwang buyers have at

bales sheetings have also been taken off the market, and reports are current that there are orders in hand for further quantities of the latter, one of the principal native hongs having telegraphic news in from Newchwang of an improved tone and much better movement of stocks there. The cause of the latter cannot be detailed until later news is to hand, but is in part attributed to reduction of taxation in Manchuria, while the opening of the customs at Tairen that took place on the 1st instant has now put that port of entry upon an equal basis with Newchwang in the matter of duties. The discrepancy between values ruling here as compared with those now required in America is shown by the fact that telegraphic offers received during the week requiring 12s. 8d. for three yard Drills, and 11s. 8d. to 11s. 11d. for 3½ yard Drills, shipment required being October to December, equivalent to about Tls. 4.65 and Tls. 5.30, the market here being at present about Tls. 4.5 per piece lower, while in sheetings the difference is very considerably greater.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 12th July.—The prices ruling are as follows:—

COTTON YARN.—The demand reported in our last has further improved and a large business has been transacted. Prices have advanced \$3 to \$7 per sale. Market closes firm and with an upward tendency. Quotations are:—No. 10s at \$70 to \$93; No. 16s. at \$93 to \$125, and No. 20s. at \$95 to \$139. Arrivals 12,000 bales; Sales 15,000 bales; Shipments 9,000 bales; Bargaining 54,000 bales. Unsold stock 34,000 bales.

Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s. — to —
English—Nos. 16 to 24, — to —
" 22 to 24, — to —
" 28 to 32, — to —
" 38 to 42, — to —

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—No change; Market quiet.

Grey Shirtings—7 lbs. \$2.35 to \$2.55
8.4 lbs. 2.95 to 4.05
9 to 10 lbs. 3.90 to 4.92
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. 2.70 to 3.25
58 to 60 " 3.25 to 4.00
64 to 66 " 4.00 to 5.50
Fine 4.50 to 9.90
Book-folds 3.50 to 5.75
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ... 0.65 to 1.25
T-Cloths—6 lbs. 32 in. (Ord'y) 2.00 to 2.20
7 lbs. 32 " " 2.30 to 3.25
6 lbs. 32 " (Mexs)
7 lbs. 32 " " 2.40 to 3.85
8 to 8.4 oz., 36 in. 3.10 to 4.00

Drills, English—40 yds. ... 1.40 to 5.00
13½ to 14 " ...

FANCY COTTON.—No change; Market quiet.

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs. } \$1.75 to \$3.80

per yard
Brocades—Dyed \$0.11 to \$0.13
Chintzes—Assorted 0.08 to 0.13
Velvets—Black, 22 in., 0.21 to 0.43
Velveteens—18 in., 0.20 to 0.24

per doz.
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk \$0.50 to \$1.10
WOOLLENS.—No change; Market quiet.

per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops \$0.70 to \$2.00
German, 0.55 to 0.75
Habit, Medium & Broad Cloths, 1.25 to 3.00

per piece.
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs. \$6.35 to \$9.00
Assorted 6.50 to 9.15

Camlets—Assorted 9.00 to 30.00
Lastings—30 yds. 31 inches } 12.50 to 19.00
Assorted (.....) }

Orleans—Plain 11.00

per lb.
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs. \$0.65 to \$1.50

METALS.—

Iron—Nail Rod \$1.40
Square, Flat, Round Bar (Eng.) ... 4.35
Swedish Bar 4.45
Small Round Rod 4.80

Hoop ½ to 1½ in. 6.00
Wire, 16 25 oz. 10.00

Wire Rope, Old 3.00
Lead, L.B. & Co. and Hole Chop ... 12.20

Australian 12.20
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14 28 oz. 45.50

Vivian's, 16/32 oz., 45.50
Elliot's, 16/28 z 45.50

Composition Nails, —
Tin, 98.00

per box
Tin-Plates, \$7.10

per picul
Quicksilver, \$116.00

per box,
Window Glass, 4.00

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

HANKOW, 3rd July, 1907.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

	Per picul
Cowhides, Best Selected.....Tls.	34.50
Do. Seconds	31.00
Buffalo Hides, Best Selected.....	22.75
Goatskins, untanned, chiefly white colour	—
Buffalo Horns, average 3 lbs. each	—
White China Grass, Wuchang and or Poochi.....	10.10
White China Grass, Sinshan and or Chayu	—
Green China Grass, Szechuen	8.15
Jute	—
White Vegetable Tallow, Kinchow	11.20
White Vegetable Tallow, Pingchow and/or Macheng	—
White Vegetable Tallow, Mongyu	—
Green Vegetable Tallow, Kiyu.....	11.00
Animal Tallow	11.00
Gallnuts, usual shape	14.70
Gallnuts, plum do.	17.20
Tobacco, Tingchow	—
Tobacco, Woukong	—
Turneric	—
Sesamum Seed	5.20
Sesamum Seed Oil	—
Wood Oil	9.40
Tea Oil	—

Per steamer *Pingsuey*, sailed on 20th June. For Marseilles:—200 bales silk, 600 cases cassia, 70 packages human hair, 100 cases gallouts. For Marseilles and Havre:—125 rolls mats, 50 cases staranised. For Havre:—350 bales canes, 1,900 rolls mats. For Liverpool:—164 packages mats and rope, 23 packages ginger and blackwoodware, &c. For Manchester:—3 packages preserves and effects.

Per P. & O. steamer *Derranah*, sailed on 20th June.—For Manchester:—102 bales waste silk. For Gibraltar:—250 bales tobacco, 15 cases cigars, 2 cases silk piece goods. For London:—5,959 packages tea, 13 packages private effects, 4 cases silk, 105 bales raw silk, 330 bales waste silk, 8 packages sundries, 43 cases camphor, 1 case garter webs, 3 cases ivory, 6 cases iron flasks. For Milan:—30 bales raw silk. For Hamburg:—14 cases feathers. For St. Chamond:—10 bales raw silk. For Lyons:—487 bales raw silk. For Marseilles:—5 cases hats, 155 packages tea, 244 bales raw silk, 253 bales waste silk, 1 case silk shawls, 17 cases hair, 100 cases camphor.

Per s.s. *Roon*, sailed on 4th July, 1907. For Naples:—50 bales waste silk. For Venice:—150 bales cassia. For Genoa:—435 bales raw silk, 250 bales cassia. For Valencia:—100 cases cassia. For Barcelona:—400 cases cassia. For Antwerp:—30 rolls matting, 3 cases blackwoodware, and 1 case silk. For Amsterdam/Rotterdam:—48 rolls matting. For Rotterdam:—150 bales broken cassia. For Bremen:—169 rolls matting, 130 bales feathers, and 20 cases blackwoodware. For Bremen/Hamburg:—9 rolls matting. For Hamburg:—2,600 cases cassia, 600 bales feathers, 126 rolls matting, 97 cases bristles, 49 cases blackwoodware, 30 cases chinaware, 20 cases cantharides, 17 cases human hair, and 10 cases essential oil. For Copenhagen:—1 bale feathers. For Christiania:—1 case curios.

FREIGHT.

Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s Report, dated July 4th, 1907, states:—As usual at this season of the year there is a fair amount of cargo, principally tea, going forward in the various directions to Europe and America, and at times it is difficult to secure space, especially to New York. Coastwise:—The dull season is fully upon us, and we are afraid owners must be prepared for poor freights, at any rate for the next couple of months, as there does not seem to be any cargo worth mentioning moving in any direction.

From Hankow per Conference Steamers.—To London and Northern Continental ports 45/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To Genoa, Marseilles or Havre 45/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez) General Cargo 30/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez):—Tea 7/6 per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (overland):—per carload, Tea G. 1½ cents per lb. gross; less than carload, Tea G. 1½ cents per lb. gross, plus river freight. To Shanghai:—Tea and General Cargo, Tls. 1.60 to 1.80 per ton weight or measurement.

AMOY CUSTOMS RETURNS.

The *Amoy Gazette and Shipping Report*, dated 6th July, 1907, has the following list of the principal goods passed through the Amoy Custom House.

IMPORTS.

GOODS.	QUANTITY
Cotton Raw, Indian.....	pls. —
" " Native	—
" " Yarn	903
Shirtings, Grey	pcs. 565
T-Cloths	705
Shirtings, White	950
T. Red Shirtings	140
Drills.....	60
Shirtings Dyed, Brocades.....	92
" Dyed	350
Damasks	—
Camlets	65
Lastings.....	—
Spanish Stripes	yds. —
Lustres, Figured.....	—
Lead in Pigs	pls. 20
Tin in Slabs.....	81
Iron, Nail Rod.....	95
Quicksilver	11
Iron, Old	209
Ironwire	—
Rice	34,640
Opium, Patna	—
" Benares	58
" Persian	11
" Malwa	—
" Szechuen	—
" Yunnan	—
" Kiangsu.....	—
Sesamum Seed	154
Sapanwood	48
Sandalwood	15
Rattans.....	45
Wheat	—
Flour	7,593
Beancake	15,360
Beans and Peas	15,876
Bicho de Mer	105
Mats, Tea.....	pcs. —
Oil, Kerosene American	gals. —
" " Borneo in bulk ...	—
" " Russian	—
" " Sumatra	—
" " Bulk.....	—
Coal	tons —
Tobacco Leaf	pls. 102
Vermicelli	142

EXPORTS.

Sugar, White	pls. —
" Brown	—
" Candy	—
Hemp Bags	pcs. 40,850
" Sacking	—
Paper I Quality	pls. 1,116
" II	300
Tobacco, Prepared	99
Kittysols (umbrellas)	pcs. 1,300

HONGKONG QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 30th June, 1907.

Apricot	\$ 10 to 15
Borax	\$ 16 " 18
Cassia	\$ 18 " —
Cloves	\$ 25 " 40
Camphor	\$160 " —
Cow Bezoar	\$110 " 140
Fennel Seed	\$ 3 " 9
Galangal	\$ 3 " 5½
Grapes	\$ 10 " 12
Kismis	\$ 9 " 11
Glue	\$ 24 " 28
Olibanum	\$ 4 " 16
Oil Sandalwood	\$245 " 350
" Rosa	\$ 50 " 150
" Sassa	\$270 " —
Raisins	\$ 7 " 8
Senna Leaves	\$ 3 " 7
Sandalwood	\$ 24 " 29
Saltpetre	\$ 10 " 10½

SHARE REPORTS.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Share Report for the week ending July 4th, 1907, states:—There has hardly been any business done at all since our last issue. The June Settlement took place on Friday, the 25th, and passed off satisfactorily. Monday and Tuesday, the 1st and 2nd July, were

Bank holidays and the Stock Exchange was closed, in consequence there is very little to report. The T. T. on London to-day is 2/11½. Banks.—H. & S. Banks. In the absence of reliable quotations from London we still quote the price cum all as \$860 sellers. The first payment of £15 for the new shares fell due yesterday. Marine and Fire Insurance.—There is no business reported. Shipping.—Indo-Chinas. One or two transactions have taken place at Tls. 29 for the Preference and Tls. 22 for the Deferred. Docks and Wharves.—Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd. Shares have been placed at Tls. 76 for cash and Tls. 78 for December. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves. Without anything of importance to record the price remains steady at Tls. 221 for cash. There is no forward business. Sugars.—No business reported. Mining.—A single transaction of Kaipings is reported at Tls. 15.70. Lands.—Shanghai Lands have been placed at Tls. 103 and Tls. 104 for the old shares; new shares remain at Tls. 103. Anglo-French Lands. Shares are in the market at Tls. 100. Industrial.—Cottons. A single transaction is reported in Ewos at Tls. 63. Shanghai Gas Shares have been dealt in at Tls. 108, Maatschappij, &c., in Lankats. Shares wanted for the Settlement drove the price to Tls. 295, but immediately the Settlement was over the stock declined again and shares have been dealt in at Tls. 292½ for July, Tls. 297½ for September, and Tls. 305 for December, closing steady. Shanghai Sumatras. There are buyers at Tls. 110. Shanghai Waterworks. Old shares have been dealt in at Tls. 300. Kalumpung Rubbers. Shares have changed hands at Tls. 30. Miscellaneous.—Hall and Holtz. Shares have been placed at \$21½. There is no other business reported. Loans and Debentures.—There is nothing to report.

HONGKONG, 12th July, 1907.—We have but little improvement to report in the volume of business transacted during the past week, but a distinctly better feeling has prevailed, and at the close a very fair enquiry for investment purposes exists. Rates generally show no material change, but close on the whole with a firmer tendency. Exchange on London is quoted to-day at 2s. 2½d T.T. and in Shanghai at 73 T/T.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai are steady at \$680 ex new issue, and at \$522½ new issue, the latter with sales and probable further sellers. London is unchanged at £75 ex new issue and at £60 for the new issue £15 paid up. Nationals are unaltered at \$51.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have advanced, and are in request, at \$770. North Chinas have been booked at Tls. 75 and are still obtainable at the rate. Yangtszes have improved to \$180 at which shares in small quantities are wanted. Cantons have been booked at \$270, and there are further buyers.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Chinas have been fixed at \$88 and \$88½, and more shares are wanted at the former rate. Hongkongs are still obtainable at \$320, after sales at the rate.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao are easier with sellers at \$30. Sales of Indos have been effected at \$69 cum div., and at \$67 ex div., closing with probable buyers at the latter rate. Douglasses have sold and are in further request at \$41. Shell Transports are quoted at 45s. ex div., at which the market closes with probable sellers.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars are quiet at \$100, after reported sales at that rate, and Luzons at \$21, the latter with sellers.

MINING.—Charbonnages are unchanged with buyers at \$480. Baub's have been booked at \$6, and \$6½, and are in further request at \$6.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have declined to \$100, at which rate sales are reported to have been effected, the market closing with probable buyers at the rate. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have been booked at \$78, and more shares are available at \$79. New Amoy Docks continue in request at \$11½. Shanghai Docks are steady at Tls. 76, and Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves at the advanced rate of Tls. 225.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have sold, and have further sellers at \$104. An interim dividend of \$3½ per share is payable on the 25th instant. Kowloon Lands have sold and are in further request at \$37. West Points are firmer with probable buyers at \$50. An interim dividend of \$½ per share is payable on the 29th instant. Humphreys's Estates have sold and have further sellers at \$10½.

COTTON MILLS.—Quotations are unchanged, and we have no business to report.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Bell's Asbestos are enquired for at \$7. China Borneos have sold and are in further request at \$9. Cements have improved to \$17 ex the dividend of 50 cents per share paid to-day. Electrics have been booked and more shares are on offer at 14½. Ices have been booked at \$245, and close firm at the rate. China Light and Powers are wanted at \$6, and Watsons at \$11. Powells are still obtainable at \$8.

Quotations are as follows.—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Alhambra	\$200	\$120
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai	\$125	\$680, x.n.i. \$522½, n. i. (£15 p'd up) Ln. £79, x.n.i. Ln. £60, n. i. (£15, paid up)
National B. of China	£6	\$51
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	12s. 6d.	\$7, buyers
China-Borneo Co.		\$12, sales & buy.
China Light & P. Co.	\$10	\$6, buyers
China Provident	\$10	\$9, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 64
Hongkong	\$10	\$11½, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 50
Iaou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 82½
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 330
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$15, buyers
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$79, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$100
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$11½, buyers
Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	Tls. 76
S'hai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 225
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$17½, sellers
G. Island Cement	\$10	\$17, buyers ex. divd
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$175, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$14½, sales & sel.
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$118, sellers
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$245
Hongkong Rope Co.	\$10	\$22½, buyers
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$270, sales & buy.
China Fire	\$20	\$88, buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$90, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$320, sales & sel.
North China	\$25	Tls. 75, sales & sel.
Union	\$100	\$770, sales & buy.
Yangtsze	\$50	\$180
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$104, sellers
Humphrey's Estate	\$10	\$10½, sales & sel.
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$37, sales
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	\$102, ex. divd
West Point Building	\$50	\$50
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$480, buyers
Raub's	18-10	\$6, sales & buyers
Peak Tramways	\$10	\$10½, x. new buy.
Philippine Co.	\$10	\$11½, (new) buy.
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$100
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$21, sellers
Steamship Companies—		
China and Manila	\$25	\$15
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$41, buyers
H. Canton & M.	\$15	\$30, sellers
Indo-China S.N. Co.	\$10	\$69, sales c.d.
Shell Transport Co.	\$1	45 ex. divd
Star Ferry	\$10	\$26, sellers
Do. New	\$5	\$16½, sellers
South China M. Post.	\$25	\$22, sales
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	\$7
Stores & Dispensaries.		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$20, sellers
Powell & Co., Wm.	\$10	\$8, sellers
Watkins	\$10	\$3, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$11, sales & buy.
United Asbestos	\$4	\$10½, buyers
Do. Founders	\$10	\$150
Union Waterboat Co.	\$10	\$12½, sales

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, July 12th.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer	2/2½
Bank Bills, on demand	2/2½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/2½
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/2½
ON PARIS.—Bank Bills, on demand	275½
Cr-dits 4 months' sight	280½
ON GERMANY.—On demand	224
ON NEW YORK.—Bank Bills, on demand	53½
Credits, 60 days' sight	54½
ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer	163½
Bank, on demand	163½
ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer	163½
Bank on demand	163½
ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight	73
Private, 30 days' sight	73½
ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand	107
ON MANILA.—On demand	107½
ON SINGAPORE.—On demand	7 p.m.
ON BATAVIA.—On demand	131½
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	4½ p.m.
ON SAIGON.—On demand	4 p.m.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	67½
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$ 9.10
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	\$17.90
BAR SILVER, per oz	\$1.10

SUBSIDIARY COINS.

		per cent.
Chinese	20 cents pieces	\$3.71 discount.
"	10 " "	9.42 "
Hongkong	20 " "	8.10 "
"	10 " "	8.40 "

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST

MAIL.

July.—

ARRIVALS.

2. Canton, British str., from Hongay.
2. Childar, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
3. Kobsichang, German str., from Bangkok.
3. Loongsang, British str., from Amoy.
3. Masan Maru, Jap. str., from Tamsui.
3. Paklat, German str., from Bangkok.
3. Roou, German str., from Yokohama.
3. Taki Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
3. Woolwich, British str., from Salina.
4. Athenian, British str., from Vancouver.
4. Cheongshing, British str., from Tientsin.
4. Colombo Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
4. Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
4. Hupeh, British str., from Hoihow.
4. Mathilde, German str., from Haiphong.
4. Na shan, British str., from Saigon.
4. Shaohsing, British str., from Shanghai.
4. Singan, British str., from Haiphong.
4. Solstad, Norwegian str., from Moji.
5. Chingtu, British str., from Sydney.
5. Hongwan J, British str., from Singapore.
5. Tean, British str., from Manila.
5. Teo Pao, German str., from Bangkok.
5. Tjiliwong, Dutch str., from Moji.
6. Aberlour, British str., from Moji.
6. Chunsang, British str., from Wakamatsu.
6. Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
6. Kaifong, British str., from Iloilo.
6. Scandia, German str., from Singapore.
6. Van Outhurn, British str., from Billiton.
7. Coquet, British str., from Kuchinotsu.
7. Heim, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
7. Kwongsang, British str., from Shanghai.
7. Phu-Yen, French str., from Saigon.
7. Pronto, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
7. Shakano Maru, Jap. str., from Shiyen.
7. Simla, British str., from London.
7. Taishun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
8. C. D'edrichsen, Ger. str., from Hoihow.
8. Fukushu Maru, Jap. str., from Anping.
8. Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
8. Hopsang, British str., from Singapore.
8. J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
8. Kanagawa Maru, Jap. str., from Y'hama.
8. Nikko Maru, Jap. str., from Manila.
8. Rubi, British str., from Manila.
8. Seiko Maru, Jap. str., from Poochow.
8. St. Patrick, British str., from Keelung.
8. Sydney, French str., from Yokohama.
8. Tonkin, French str., from Marseilles.
8. Waishing, British str., from Chinkiang.
8. Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
9. Atlantis, American str., from Manila.
9. Benvorlich, British str., from London.
9. Bingo Maru, Jap. str., from Antwerp.

- 9, Chang-ha, British str., from Kobe.
- 9, Goto Maru, Japanese str., from Kobe.
- 9, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
- 9, Moyune, British str., from Singapore.
- 9, Ragnar, Norwegian str., from Rajang.
- 9, Yawata Maru, Jap. str., from Nagasaki.
- 10, Asia, British str., from Shanghai.
- 10, Haimun, British str., from Foochow.
- 10, Helene, German str., from Hoihow.
- 10, Hong Bee, British str., from Straits.
- 10, Ischia, Italian str., from Bombay.
- 10, Joshin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
- 10, Machew, German str., from Bangkok.
- 10, Yochow, British str., from Shanghai.
- 11, China, British str., from Shanghai.
- 11, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 11, Delhi, British str., from Bombay.
- 11, Nanohang, British str., from Chefoo.
- 11, Rajah, German str., from Bangkok.
- 11, Taisang, British str., from Chefoo.

July— DEPARTURES.

- 4, Amara, British str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Canton, British str., for Chinkiang.
- 4, Empress of China, Br. str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Liangchow, British str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Lydia, German str., for Hoihow.
- 4, Merapi, Dutch str., for Amoy.
- 4, Progress, Norwegian str., for Sandakan.
- 4, Triumph, German str., for Haiphong.
- 4, Yatshing, British str., for Moji.
- 5, Antiochus, British str., for Kutchinotzu.
- 5, Dagny, Norwegian str., for Chefoo.
- 5, Fausang, British str., for Singapore.
- 5, Giran Maru, Japanese str., for Java.
- 5, Hangang, British str., for Shanghai.
- 5, Kisagata Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
- 5, Kweiyang, British str., for Ningpo.
- 5, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
- 5, Ponglong, German str., for Bangkok.
- 6, Amoy, German str., for Quinhon.
- 6, Bourbon, French str., for Saigon.
- 6, Choisang, German str., for Amoy.
- 6, Colombo Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.
- 6, Devawongse, German str., for Swatow.
- 6, Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
- 6, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
- 6, Hupeh, British str., for Haiphong.
- 6, Kueichow, British str., for Swatow.
- 6, Mercede, British transport, for Weihaiwei.
- 6, Nikkai Maru, Japanese str., for Hongay.
- 6, Nissin Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
- 6, Singan, British str., for Hoihow.
- 6, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
- 7, Masan Maru, Japanese str., for Batavia.
- 7, Hongwan I, British str., for Amoy.
- 7, Kashima Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
- 7, Quarta, German str., for Saigon.
- 7, Shantung, British str., for Java.
- 7, Tjiliwong, Dutch str., for Batavia.
- 8, Scandia, German str., for Shanghai.
- 8, Tonkin, French str., for Shanghai.
- 9, Ambria, German str., for Shanghai.
- 9, Catherine Apar, Brit. str., for Singapore.
- 9, Coquet, British str., for Kuchinotzu.
- 9, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
- 9, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 9, Namsang, British str., for Singapore.
- 9, Nippon Maru, Jap. str., for San Francisco.
- 9, Petchaburi, German str., for Swatow.
- 9, Riojun Maru, Japanese str., for Keelung.
- 9, Simla, British str., for Shanghai.
- 9, Sydney, French str., for Europe, &c.
- 9, Tean, British str., for Manila.
- 10, Benvorliob, British str., for Nagasaki.
- 10, Foochow, British str., for Chinkiang.
- 10, Fukushima Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
- 10, Haitan, British str., for Amoy.
- 10, Kanagawa Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
- 10, Kenkon Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
- 10, Nikko Maru, Jap. str., for Yokohama.
- 10, Saint Patrick, British str., for Hoihow.
- 10, Seiko Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
- 10, Sha-hsing, British str., for Shanghai.
- 10, Tjil-tj p. Dutch str., for Saigon.
- 11, Chang-ha, British str., for Manila.
- 11, Chingtu, British str., for Yokohama.
- 11, Delhi, British str., for Shanghai.
- 11, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
- 11, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
- 11, Heim, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
- 11, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
- 11, Mathilde, German str., for Haiphong.
- 11, Moyune, British str., for Shanghai.
- 11, Paklat, German str., for Bangkok.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per *Machew*, from Bangkok, Mr. G. Ross.
 Per *Tjiliwong*, from Moji, Mr. Wamsteker.
 Per *Yensang*, from Manila, Capt. H. H. Patton.
 Per *Atlantis*, from Manila, Mr. Bartolomei Picornell.
 Per *Shaohsing*, from Shanghai, &c., Messrs. Pugh, Leonie and Bolster.
 Per *Haimun*, from Coast Ports, Messrs. Orlipp, Zanya, Parkson and Greensore.
 Per *Yochow*, from Shanghai, Mrs. Sidford, Miss Goode, Miss Wood, Messrs. Tricker, Delaney and Miller.
 Per *Changsha*, from Kobe and Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Hashim, Mrs. Benbinger, Messrs. Gibson and Phellips.

Per *Haitan*, from Coast Ports, Mrs. Lammert and 2 children, Misses (2) Knock, Capt. Lishman, Messrs. Toeler and MacIntosh.

Per *Kwongsang*, from Shanghai, &c., Masters Harry and Alfred Ramsay, Masters Philip and Demot Dixon, and Mons. Ascoli.

Per *Taishun*, from Shanghai, Miss Murkens, and Miss Bonavia Hunt en route for Java where they intend giving a series of concerts.

Per *Rubi*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Forrest and child, Lieut. Heart, Lieut. Willing, Messrs. Haynes, Wilson, Ne bitt and Pettingell.

Per *Chingtu*, from Sydney, &c., Mrs. E. Perkins and child, Messrs. Jackson, Osborne, Faulay, Vils, Andersen, Kenney, Gallagher, and Fowle.

Per *Bingo Maru*, from Antwerp and London, for Hongkong, Mr. N. Akuzawa; for Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. D. Murdoch, and Mr. O. Okada; for Yokohama, Miss E. Ringsted, Miss Ruth Squire, and Miss F. V. Squire.

Per *Asia*, from San Francisco, &c., Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Shepard and son, Dr. and Mrs. P. F. Gilman, Mrs. P. Merles and servant, Miss A. Flores, Messrs. J. G. Argtsinger, Thos. W. Parkin, Lewis F. Bailey, Edward A. Pratt, William Goldsmith, H. E. Wallace and W. J. D. Young.

Per *Simla*, from London, for Hongkong, Mrs. Oaling, Miss Shelburne, Surg. Ormsby, Dr. Kelly, Dr. Scanton, Messrs. C. Pain and G. Consens; for Shanghai, Lt. Boone, Messrs. Hetchford and Thornbon; for Yokohama, Messrs. Humber and Thomas; from Singapore, for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Hedgson.

Per *Yawata Maru*, from Nagasaki, for Hongkong, Mrs. Jones, Messrs. Boanas and Alcole; for Manila, Dr. and Mrs. Lerrigo, Mr. and Miss Carr, Mrs. Page and infant, Miss Suman, Lt. Fleet, Lt. Jackson, Major Magill, Messrs. Howly, T. Talton, Isnikawa, Sulioan, and Jolondoni; for Brisbane, Mr. Thomson; for Sydney, Mr. and Mrs. Castill, Capt. Clark, Messrs. Henderson, Clark and Macdonall.

Per *Delhi*, for Hongkong, from London, Mr. Ed. Pond; from Marseilles, Mr. A. M. Anderson; from Colombo, Lieut. White; from Bombay, Capt. P. Taylor; from Singapore, Messrs. D. W. Jones and servant, G. Gould and R. H. Smith; for Shanghai, from London, Mr. A. E. Jones; from Singapore, Miss Burchander, Messrs. J. L. Smith, J. H. Baum and Head Jones; for Yokohama, from London, Mr. A. Macmillan; from Port Said, Mr. E. J. Donald; from Bombay, Mr. G. Lopes; from Singapore, Mr. Harom Ahmed.

Per *Tonkin*, for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Mr. Mrs. and (2) Misses Bardot, Messrs. W. Grey and Philippot; from Colombo, Messrs. Jack Keé, K. Jones B. Giorgi and Pormusfe D. Moolau; from Saigon, Miss Marie Postallec, Messrs. Emist, E. Bursley, S. C. Ismail, R. G. Furniss, Bounaud and Le Cam; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Mr. Gsell; from Port Said, Messrs. Casafonglon, Protapapa, Héplanis and Fogel; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Clouet, Messrs. K. Haseawa and Scheidegger; from Saigon, Mrs. Papillon, Mrs. Augier, Messrs. Virey, Pajimar and S. Kauffmann; for Kobe, from Marseilles, Mr. T. Kita; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Duval & infant, from Colombo, Lt. H. Messenger; from Singapore, Mr. Ross Laurence; from Batavia, Mrs. Tjie Njem Nio.

Per *Sydney*, for Hongkong, from Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. Lam Yau Yau; from Shanghai, Capt. Lindholm, Messrs. Hollward, Gilbreth, Y. Tracey, Luthirghaus and Tophem; from Shanghai, for Saigon, Mr. Haag; for Singapore, Mrs. Petersen, and Mrs. Papedroka; for Bombay, from Yokohama, Mr. and Miss Ramsden; from Kobe, Mr. Sethna; for Marseilles, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Richards, and Mr. Gilman; from Shanghai, Capt. and Mrs. Daniell and infant, Messrs. Helleringer, Lever and Asselin.

Per *Kanagawa Maru*, from Yokohama and Shanghai, for Hongkong, Mrs. W. Willing and child, Messrs. J. Archer, A. E. Gutierrez, H. G. Sparrow, B. Barnette, E. Es. Dale, T. Kawashima and P. Richards; for Singapore, Mrs. T. Kilatam, Messrs. C. N. China and S. M. A. Alamedani; for Penang, Mrs. T. C. Anderson; for Colombo, Messrs. M. Morita, J. Matsukura and S. Kiga; for Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Perellaw, and Mr. T. Yawaya; for London, Messrs. J. B. Colbeck and W. E. Tapham.

Per *Nikko Maru*, from Australia, for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Winship, Capt. and Mrs. W. R. Rush, Mrs. J. M. Bing, Miss Voss, Miss Dmoran, Miss Bessie Kincaid, Dr. V. Voss, Messrs. M. P. Beattie, C. L. Yeoman, C. H. Honen, E. McCullough, W. F. McLaughlin, T. Gribayedoff, P. D. Kincaid and T. Hirose; for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. F. Wayland Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Roush, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Burgess, Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. J. Johnson, Mrs. R. S. Whiting, Mrs. A. T. Ogilvie, Mrs. Filmer and child, Mrs. H. E. Burke, Miss C. Whiting, Miss A. Whiting, Miss Smither, Dr. W. L. Ascherson, Judge Casey, Master A. Ogilvie, Messrs. T. Keenan, Warden, J. H. Allison, H. Matsuo, S. Mogata and Fisher; for Nagasaki, Miss T. Yoshioka, and Miss I. Matsuyama; for Kobe, Mr. M. Nomura.

DEPARTED.

Per *Zafiro*, from Hongkong, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Thebant, Mrs. R. S. Wright, Dr. Adolf Razlay, Messrs. Haasmann, J. W. Rice, H. K. Fawkes and Meyer.

Per *Riojun Maru*, from Hongkong, for Keelung, &c., Mrs. Harmon, 2 children & amah, Messrs. Stefano, H. Paquet, J. B. Roza, Thos. F. Renton, Olas and E. J. Stillings.

Per *Nippon Maru*, from Hongkong, for San Francisco, &c., Mr. and Mrs. S. Powell and children, Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. W. Riesbol, Mr. and Mrs. O. D. Wanamaker, Dr. and Mrs. M. J. White, Comdr. and Mrs. Rush, Mrs. C. F. Moses, Mrs. H. C. Russell, Mrs. J. J. Boog, Mrs. H. B. Shane, Miss B. Kincaid, Lt. R. G. Powell, U.S.A., Lt. C. E. Heart, Messrs. Singdengales, Geo. Bow, Morinaki, J. Midzushima, T. Gribayedoff, H. G. Santen, P. Kinoid, E. R. McCullough, W. B. Wilson, O. W. Nesbitt, N. J. Haynes, N. Wising, N. Matsuda, H. H. Patterson and W. F. McLaughlin.

Per *Nikko Maru*, from Hongkong, for Japan, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Wayland Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Roush, Mr. and Mrs. Burgess, Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. J. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Crofton, Major and Mrs. Kelsall, Consul and Mrs. T. Tanaka and 2 children, Mrs. R. S. Whiting, Mrs. A. T. Ogilvie, Mrs. Filmer and child, Mrs. Robertson and 3 children, Mrs. Newman, Miss C. Whiting, Miss A. Whiting, Miss Smither, Miss T. Yoshioka, Miss I. Matsuyama, Miss F. A. Britton, Capt. W. A. Quennell, A.O.D., Master A. Ogilvie, Judge Casey, Messrs. F. Keenan, Warden, D. W. L. Ascherson, J. H. Allison, M. Nomura, H. Matsuo, S. Mogata, Fischer, H. R. Burke, M. Kobayashi, Chas. H. Honen, A. J. Hall, J. Fisher, H. Calthrop, T. W. Robertson and R. Packham.